

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. LV.]

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BIRTHS.

On the 2nd December, 1901, at Addison Place Arbroath, Scotland, the wife of GEORGE MACKENZIE, Chinese Customs Service, of a son.

On the 24th December, at Kobe, the wife of J. GUGGENHEIM, of a son.

On the 24th December, at "Salamat," Bukit Timah Road, Singapore, the wife of J. FORBES, Chartered Bank, of a son (still-born).

On the 27th December, at "Bluebell Cottage," Confederate Estate, Straits Settlements, the wife of E. C. LANE, of a daughter.

On the 27th December, at No. 8, Seward Road, Shanghai, the wife of W. L. KNARE, of a son.

On the 8th January, at Hongkong Hotel, the wife of H. HAYNES, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On the 28th December, at the United States Consulate, Yokohama, in the presence of John McLean, Vice and Deputy Consul-General of the United States of America, by the Rev. E. S. Booth, TAHMA SONO to HENRY ARNOLD HOWE, a citizen of Orange City, State of New Jersey, U.S.A.

On the 4th January, 1902, at St. John's Cathedral, Hongkong, by the Rev. J. H. France, M.A., Lieutenant GEOFFREY BASIL SPICER SIMSON, R.N., H.M.S. *Waterwitch*, to AMY ELIZABETH, daughter of EDMUND BAYNES-REED, Esq., of Esquimaux.

On the 7th January, 1902, at St. John's Cathedral, Hongkong, by the Rev. R. F. Cobbold, M.A., Colonial Chaplain, NICO AY SPIERING-PIERSDORF, M.E., to THERESA FRIEDERIKE CAROLINE, daughter of EDWARD HERBST, of Hongkong.

DEATHS.

On the 17th December, at Changteh, Hunan, CARRIE GOOSBICH, the wife of Dr. WILLIAM KELLY.

On the 23rd December, at Tientsin, ZELLA MAYNARD, aged 29 years.

On the 3rd January, at 44, Range Road, Shanghai, AUGUSTA MARIA, the beloved wife of C. C. DOS REMEDIOS.

Hongkong Weekly Press

HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.

LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The English mail of the 6th December arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Coromandel*, on the 4th January (29 days); the American mail of the 9th December arrived, per P. M. steamer *Nippon Maru*, on the 9th January (31 days); and the German mail of the 26th November arrived, per N. D. L. steamer *Preussen*, on the 10th January (45 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

There is a rumour that the betrothal has been arranged of Prince Chun to Yung Lu's daughter, in the hope that an heir may be born to the throne.

The Washington correspondent of the *London Morning Post* says that President Roosevelt has signed an order establishing an American Naval Station at Subig Bay, Philippine Islands.

The Kobe branch of the Franco-Japanese Society has appointed a committee with the object of bringing about a closer business connection between Japan and France and the French colonies.

A Washington telegram published in the *Manila Times* says:—It is now certain that the government wishes Governor Taft to return to his post just so soon as his health is restored and his mission to the United States is over.

The *Journal des Colonies* (Paris) say that M. Le Myrede Villers is not unlikely to succeed M. Doumer as Governor-General of French Indo-China. He was formerly the Minister Plenipotentiary in Annam, and concluded the 1893 treaty with Siam. The name of M. Constans is also mentioned. It is said that M. Doumer will probably pay a visit to Bangkok on his way back to France, perhaps in February.

Pu Chun, the degraded heir apparent, is now designated Duke Chun, whilst he is also now dressed as other Dukes, having had to give up his very large collection of clothes and robes made for him in his former capacity. He did not travel with the Empress Dowager, nor was he sent to join his father at Ninghsia, as at first reported, but travelled several days in the rear of the Court under the care of the Honan authorities.

An Imperial Decree was issued on the 2nd inst. commanding that an early date be set, after the return of the Court to Peking, for the granting of a special audience of the various Powers in the Chientsing Palace. An audience is also to be given on another date to be afterwards mutually settled upon, to the said Foreign Ministers' wives in the Ninghsia by the Empress Dowager, similar to a previous audience in 1899. This is to cement the friendship which the Emperor is anxious to strengthen between China and the Powers.

On the 11th inst. the Foreign Consuls and the Chinese authorities at Amoy signed the draft provisions for the administration of an International Settlement on Kulangsu.

The Chinese Imperial Court arrived at Chenting, Chihli, on the 31st ult., and gave audience to a number of officials. On the 3rd inst. the Court proceeded by train to Paotingfu. Audience was there granted to Prince Ching. Shortly afterwards the Empress Dowager issued a command that the Imperial party would remain at Paoting three days. On the 7th inst. they arrived at Peking, passing the Yangting Gate at 1.30 p.m. and being welcomed by the Prince, Ministers, and Military and Civil Mandarins. It appears that, after all, the Empress Dowager was with the party.

The following is the outline of the Russian Minister's reply to Prince Ching and Wang Wen-shao:—"The terms concluded with the late Plenipotentiary, H. E. Li Hung-chang, are satisfactory to us, and they protect Chinese interests, and discourage the interference of other Powers, and I had therefore no reason to think that there could be any objection whatever on your part. It is quite inconceivable that you should want to modify these terms, and I do not know how to reply to your demand. I shall, however, at all events communicate with my Government, and await its instructions."

The Foreign Commissioners of the Chinese Indemnity held an informal meeting at Shanghai on the 2nd inst., but as they have not yet all received their instruction, they cannot yet begin their regular meetings. Mr. E. G. Hillier, British delegate to the Indemnity Commission, probably will also represent Sweden and Norway. Mr. Drossemeier, of the Russo-Chinese Bank, is appointed delegate of Russia and Holland, and the Consuls-General of Belgium, Italy, and the United States will represent their respective countries pending the arrival of special delegates. Mr. Buse, manager of the Deutsch-Asiatische Bank, will act for Germany. Mr. Mayer, manager of the Bank of Indo-China, for France, and Mr. Choh, manager of the Yokohama Specie Bank, for Japan.

It would seem, the *N.-C. Daily News* says, that the "traveller's tales" brought back by the Emperor's brother, H.I.H. Prince Chun, have so aroused the enthusiasm and desire to "do" the grand tour amongst the other Princes, that when the other day the Ministry for Foreign Affairs memorialised the Throne that dispatches had been received from the Chinese Ministers at London and Washington calling attention to the fact of the approaching coronation of King Edward VII in next June and the accession of President Roosevelt of the United States, respectively—both of which auspicious events required the sending of special congratulatory embassies by the Emperor—there was quite a competition amongst certain Imperial Princes for the honour of being Special Ambassadors. It would, however, seem that the Emperor desires Prince Su—an "Iron-capped" Prince, and therefore not of the special Imperial branch—to represent his Majesty in England, hence the competition apparently is for the post of Special Ambassador to the United States.

CONCERTS AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS.

(Daily Press, 6th January.)

In one respect at least the first year of the twentieth century closes in marked contrast to its predecessor. This time last year the attempted "Concert of Europe" had well nigh resulted in embroiling the world; this time the year closes without embroilment, notwithstanding that an equally difficult situation has been ended without reference to any Concert whatever. A few months, indeed it might be said a few weeks ago, the Ottoman Empire was in apparently as ticklish a state between the Powers as was China in the year of Grace 1900; the Sultan had been playing a few little tricks not dissimilar in their nature to the little game played by the Dowager of China, and amongst the other Powers he had contrived more especially to run foul of both England and France. Fortunately for Europe they were each prepared to act on their own responsibility, and did not seek the advice of their neighbours, nor indeed attempt to make up a patch-work of amity. Probably no one outside the Quai d'Orsay and Downing Street knows what the whole thing was about, but there was apparently something very combustible in the wind. It was NAPOLEON III who informed the world that France was the only country that made war for an idea; and in this case an idea seems to have had a good deal to say to the affair. The French Government is in the habit of spreading out its wings widely for the oppressed or discontented, too often the latter, to take refuge under: in this affair an Oriental capitalist had somehow or other procured French protection for a scheme of certain quays at Constantinople, in relation to which concessions were obtained from the Sultan. For some reason the Sultan changed his mind, and by no means infrequent event with Sultan ABDUL HAMID when he thinks he can do so with profit or impunity. The French Government remonstrated, but the Sultan would not condescend to reply; then it threatened, but with a like absence of effect; finally it sent out a fleet, but it was not till the Admiral commenced to land his men for an assault, and got his ships ready for action, that the Sultan began to climb down. He had apparently hoped that as at Peking the other Powers would come, each jealous of the other, and offer their "disinterested" advice, and that in the end the whole affair would be but a fizzle, and the French would go away in disgust, and nothing be done. He had, however, tried on the game once too often and had succeeded in offending everybody, so as each and all were tired after the display at Peking all resolved to keep out of the fun this time. It was probably a hard struggle, but as the French had made out a *prima facie* case, and put the matter very reasonably, Europe for once decided to let affairs go. Curiously enough the Sultan had tried to steal a march on the British Government, thinking it would be too intent on watching France to take notice, but fortunately England was well represented at Calcutta; and no time was lost in taking very similar steps in the Persian Gulf, so for once England and France found they had a common interest in avoiding complications, and each determined to leave the other a free hand. The result was fortunate for everyone except the Sultan. Neither France nor England desired to cripple Turkey, but just because they wished no evil to the Porte they were the more determined to bring the Sultan to terms before he had set Europe in a flame; and the end was that the Sultan had in

both cases to yield at discretion. Whatever may have been the justice of the claim on the part of France, it was hardly the province of the others to enquire, but it is only right to say of France that, having gained the immediate objects that led to her hostile attitude, she set a good example in receding without seeking to complicate affairs any more. England too followed the good example, and the flame, in the absence of wilful fanning, almost immediately died away without injury to the prestige of Turkey herself, or exciting any jealousy between the Powers. The whole affair has been a strange comment on the suggestions of those busybodies who profess to see international interference in the affairs of nations a path to universal peace.

Almost as strange have been the results of the negotiations between England and the United States about the Ship Canal through the Isthmus of Panama. The century closed with a very satisfactory conclusion to a long series of negotiations, wherein England surrendered certain rights of interference with the making of the Canal which had survived the causes that brought them into being. They were really survivals of the age of GEORGE CANNING, and were part of the scheme of that statesman to prevent a threatened interference of the continental Powers of Europe in the affairs of the New World. The Spanish colonies in America, disgusted at the manner in which their interests were being sacrificed by the mother country, had broken out in insurrection, and the movement was encouraged by CANNING's government, as well as meeting with sympathy from the United States. Russia and Prussia, who had in Europe formed a bond to preserve the old condition of things under the name of the "Holy Alliance," conceived the peace of the world threatened by this new revolt of the peoples of America, and had made up their minds to interfere in the interests of Spain. The incident brought together for the first time since its independence the two countries, Great Britain and the United States, who saw their common interests involved. The results were the evolution of the celebrated "MONROE Doctrine" and the Nicaraguan treaty, wherein both bound themselves not to construct a canal without a common understanding. The position that led to the necessity has long passed away, and both parties have been anxious for the construction of the Canal. The main point required by England was that she should not be at a disadvantage as regarded charges, and that the Canal should be neutralised. The United States had no desire to escape their engagements, and approached England stating they were desirous of making the Canal, and suggesting certain conditions, which were acceded to. A party in the United States Senate, more intent probably on snubbing the President than offending England vetoed the treaty. President MCKINLEY did not hesitate to express to England his dissatisfaction at the result, and did not press on England her acceptance of the conditions sought to be imposed. The action of the Senate effectually blocked the enterprise of the Canal; and as President MCKINLEY would not expose himself to another rebuff, and England would not accept the amendment proposed by the Senate, affairs came to a deadlock. The Canal was an affair in which practically the whole world were interested, but neither England nor the United States were disposed to make their private differences a subject for discussion by the other Powers, so each kept its own counsel, and as the two Governments continued of common accord, no unpleasant

friction arose. The accession of Mr. ROOSEVELT to the Presidential chair offered a possibility of arrangement: Mr. ROOSEVELT had possibly more personal influence with the Senators; at all events he was sufficiently independent to be able to bring pressure to bear, so a slightly modified treaty was negotiated and accepted by both Powers—and this time the Senate, finding possibly the inconvenience of snubbing the President, gave its assent so that the question has been removed from the region of debate. It has been held that the new treaty gives up everything without compensation, inasmuch as it does not bind the States to neutrality during war-time: the omission probably means little, as the first declaration of war would result in an abrogation of previous treaties if found to bear too hard on either nation. So long as peace lasts the treaty, it is acknowledged, is perfectly satisfactory, and as both England and the States are anxious that there should be no further difficulties thrown in the way of construction, both are satisfied with the result. Here again is a case in which the so-called "Concert of Nations" could have only had the result of rendering a peaceful settlement impossible. The nineteenth century was a period of great aspirations, accompanied too often by contemptible issues: it is a sign of good augury that the opening year of the twentieth has been one wherein with little parade much actual good has been effected.

THE MANCHURIAN CONVENTION AGAIN.

(Daily Press, 7th January.)

Yet another version of the Manchurian Convention has been published, this time purporting to be the new agreement which M. LESSAR has been urging on the Chinese Plenipotentiaries—and therefore, it is to be presumed, that which the late LI HUNG-CHANG was about to sign when his death prevented. This latest version was published by the Japanese journal *Mainichi* and has been accepted by many of the Anglo-Japanese papers as probably authentic. As it has not yet been made public in this exact form elsewhere than in Japan, we now give it in its entirety. It is as follows:—

I.—The Newchwang Railway, at present under the protection of Russia, to be transferred to China.

a.—With regard to the construction of branch lines to this railway in future China shall consult with Russia before entering upon such.

b.—No branch railway shall cross the Lia-ho, and privileges granted to Russians shall not be interfered with.

c.—The Chinese Government shall make restrictions regarding the use of the railway by Japanese and British officials.

d.—The Chinese Government shall pay 1,500,000 taels to Russia in return for the retrocession of the railway.

II.—All Russian troops, except such as are necessary for the protection of railways, shall be withdrawn from Manchuria.

a.—One-half shall leave within two years from date, and the rest shall leave within three years when order in the Northern districts is completely restored.

b.—China for two years shall pay one-half the expense of maintaining the Russian troops in the province.

c.—The Russian troops retained for the railways shall be entitled to travel anywhere under the protection of the Chinese authorities.

III.—All trade and mining privileges belong to China, but Russia agrees to protect these. Russia shall therefore assist

China with funds for the development of trade and mining, if such are required by her.

a.—No Power shall be allowed to interfere with the trade and mining interests of the territory.

b.—Should any Chinese mines under Russian control require funds, no capital other than Russian shall be employed.

c.—Should it become necessary to renew contracts regarding the working of mines under Russian control, Russia and China under such renewal shall share benefits equally.

d.—The Chinese officials shall protect Russian merchants.

IV.—China shall not increase the number of Chinese troops in the territory beyond the present number. In case the number shall be increased, Russia shall arrange for the drilling of the new troops.

a.—China may fortify important places, but no artillery shall be mounted on such fortifications.

b.—Rifle-firing will be permitted in drill exercises but not the firing of artillery.

c.—Russian officers alone shall be appointed to drill the Chinese troops, and no other Power shall be allowed any interest in this matter.

According to the *Mainichi*, the Russian Minister presented this document to Prince CHING and WANG WEN-SHAO on the 24th ult., in answer, we suppose, to their statement that they were not very well acquainted with the previous negotiations on the subject. The *Mainichi* goes on to say that WANG WEN-SHAO replied to M. LESSAR as follows:—The stipulation regarding the drilling of the Chinese troops is injurious to the dignity of China and it should be amended. The period allowed for the departure of the Russian troops is too long, and as for the expense of the maintenance of the troops it will be duly considered after the actual condition of Chinese finances has been ascertained. The stipulation regarding restrictions to be placed on British and Japanese officials travelling on the Newchwang Railway should be discussed between these powers and Russia, while the clause prohibiting the construction of any branch beyond the Liao-ho should be amended. Finally the stipulations with regard to mining in the province menace the integrity of China. As will have been recognised, this alleged reply of WANG WEN-SHAO practically tallies with the objections quoted from a Peking telegram by our Shanghai correspondent on the 26th ult. This may perhaps be regarded as increasing the probability that the terms given by the *Mainichi* are authentic. In this case, it is not necessary to discuss them over again. The objections to them from the point of view of the commercial Powers and from that of China have been stated repeatedly in the Press and elsewhere. The majority of the conditions are not new. Such a clause as that numbered I. c. is preposterous. It is hard to imagine that Russia expects that an agreement of this kind could possibly be tolerated by those nations against whose interests the Convention is mainly directed. It is not necessary to suppose that there are any secret provisos behind this "agreement." Its ratification alone by China would mark the vassalage of that empire to her northern neighbour.

A large public meeting was held on the Luneta, Manila, on the 30th ult. in honour of the Filipino martyr Jose Rizal. Senores Buen amino, Reyes and others delivered commemorative speeches in Tagalog. Few Americans were present.

THE RETURN OF THE EMPEROR.

(Daily Press, 7th January.)

This afternoon His Majesty the Emperor KWANG HSU is due to return to the capital of his Empire after an absence of nearly seventeen months. On the 11th August, 1900, he fled, no better than a captive in the train of the Empress Dowager, escaping from the advancing forces of the Allies pressing on to the relief of their beleaguered fellow-countrymen. After two months of hardships such as seldom fall to the lot of a reigning monarch the Emperor reached Hsianfu, Shensi, in October, 1900, to remain in that once celebrated but now totally decayed city until the 6th October last. Three months more see him back at last at Peking and restored once again to the nominal headship of the Chinese Empire. The interval between his hurried flight and his return has been a period of deep humiliation for China, humiliation for which he has been in no wise responsible, except in so far as his rash enthusiasm for the cause of reform brought about the *coup d'état* of 1898. It is difficult to feel any assurance that His Majesty has profited largely by the lesson he has received. No one doubts his good intentions, but unfortunately KWANG HSU has never given signs of genuine force of character. If he can be separated for ever from the pernicious environment of his aunt's friends and surrounded by such honest and enlightened statesmen as China possesses, then there may yet be cause for his rule to be remembered with gratitude in the history of his country. But the remaining reactionaries, utterly disgraced as they have been by the course of affairs, seem yet able to cling to the offices which they and their fellows have exercised with such discredit to themselves and such sorrow to China in the past. It is necessary, if the era of KWANG HSU is ever to be notable rather than notorious, that the statesman of the school of LI HUNG-CHANG and worse, if less able, men shall yield place to that of the Yangtze Viceroy and others who have in the recent times of trouble proved themselves real patriots. By their moderate yet progressive advice alone is the Emperor likely to contribute to the much talked-of regeneration of China.

CHINA AND THE EMPRESS DOWAGER.

(Daily Press, 8th January.)

That the recent outbreak of savagery in China owes its main inception to a woman is curiously shown now and then by the characteristically feminine inconsequence of the Chinese government. Tired out at the state of semi-starvation existing at Hsian, the Court made up its mind to try Kaifeng, but found it had leaped from lowest grief to something lower still, so after a short stay in the old Kin capital as it thought consistent with dignity, it last month set out on its journey to the promised land of Peking. So far so good; none of the foreign Powers were anxious to see the Imperial Court continue any longer in its self-imposed purgatory, and all were prepared to welcome it back in its old quarters. For some days affairs went on as well as could be expected, and all the luxuries that the most exacting of Chinese ladies even in the richest days of Imperial rule could require were supplied by the provinces with unstinting hands. As Peking was approached the idea that in returning to her own personal comforts she was in some way conferring some hitherto undiscovered benefit on the foreign Powers seems to have

come uppermost in the Dowager Empress's mind, and within the last week she seems to have sent H.E. YUAN SHI-KAI with a woman's message to the Ministers offering to make terms—that if she on her part should condescend to go back to her own quarters, they on their part would withdraw the Provisional Government at Tientsin. That YUAN himself would sincerely desire that the local government of his chief city should be restored goes without saying, and no one will think the worse of him for using every means in his power to that end; but YUAN is a man who has exhibited an unwonted degree of perspicuity in very trying circumstances, and it can hardly be supposed that the suggestion came from him. More likely is the suggestion to have emanated from the notorious favourite LI LIEN-YIN, to whose evil counsels so much of the present position is due. That the specious request met with the contempt that it deserved is a fortunate circumstance, showing that more sensible counsels than prevailed in many quarters last year are coming to the point. As a fact, although some of the Powers did wish to insist on the return of the Court as a concession, the majority of the Powers, including, we believe, Great Britain, were well content to leave this to follow as a necessity as soon as the Court displayed any desire to come back to its senses, so that the attempt to exact terms is likely to fall as a dead letter. Meanwhile the Provisional Government has earned the gratitude not only of the foreign Powers but of China herself. Indeed, it was entirely through the steps taken by that body that it has been possible to introduce a sufficient feeling of confidence to enable the Court to return at all. The work of the Provisional Government is not yet complete, and none know better than YUAN SHI-KAI himself that without it affairs would rapidly fall back to their old condition of disorder. We have every confidence in YUAN himself as an administrator, but it is by no means the intention of the Dowager Empress and her party to leave him a free hand, and until some plainer indication than has yet been afforded, that the Empress Dowager has made up her mind to change the rule of eunuchs for some better system, is apparent, it would be little short of folly to listen to any such suggestion as has been made. In the interest of China, no less than of foreign Powers, the still further continuance of the present position is a matter of necessity. The Court has it, however, in its own power to put an end to the anomaly, and the Powers will be ready to remove the last vestige of interference as soon as the restored Government shows any sign that it is able to grasp the first principles of sound administration.

The rate of exchange between United States currency and that of the Philippines was fixed by Acting Governor Wright at one dollar gold to two dollar and ten cents Mexican, to take effect on the 1st inst.

There was a brilliant gathering at the luncheon given to Marquis Ito at the Mansion House. The Lord Mayor highly eulogised the Mikado, and extolled Marquis Ito's indomitable will and unselfish patriotism. Marquis Ito, replying, said that the reforms in Japan were due mainly to the devotion of the Mikado and the patriotism of the people. He expressed profound satisfaction at the cordial relations existing between England and Japan. He believed the focus of international commercial competition was moving towards the Pacific, and hoped that Japan would largely share therein.

CHINA NEW YEAR AND THE CLEANSING OF HONGKONG.

(Daily Press, 11th January.)

We do not imagine that any sensible and unprejudiced European resident in this Colony will disagree with the remark of Dr. CLARK, Medical Officer of Health, at the Sanitary Board on Thursday when he said that he thought that a week's suspension of cleansing and disinfecting operations in Hongkong was sufficient on account of the China New Year festivities. It is true that two European members of the Sanitary Board spoke on behalf of Mr. FUNG WA CHUN's motion for a fortnight's suspension of work and declared that the request seemed to them reasonable. But Mr. OSBORNE at least expressed his fear that the cleansing gang would take the holiday anyhow and was in favour of making a virtue of necessity. The President very naturally asked whether the whole of the fourteen days would be required for the holiday. Mr. FUNG WA CHUN's reply about the preparation of cakes and puddings was not to the point. Even if it be granted that it takes seven days to prepare these delicacies, it is surely trifling to tell us that seven more whole days are required to eat them. The Chinese, no doubt, are an exceedingly industrious race, for the most part, and their general disregard for the length of working hours is remarkable. This being so, the supplementary motion carried by the Board on the 9th instant seems to us all the more unnecessary. Europeans in Hongkong have notably few holidays; in fact in no port in the Far East are the breaks in the routine of work so few. A precedent is now being introduced for a privilege to the native working-classes which we should not dream of suggesting for ourselves. This matter would not be so serious, were it not for the object of the operations which it is proposed to interrupt. The cleansing and disinfecting work now being carried on under the direction of the Sanitary Board is expressly designed to do away, as far as is possible, with the filthy conditions which foster the birth and growth of plague in our midst. The Board on Thursday consented to stop these necessary labours for seven days before and seven days after the 8th February, the first day of the first Chinese moon. It is worth while to examine the plague figures for February and the following month, compared with the annual totals, during the years of epidemic in Hongkong. They can be tabulated as follows:—

	February	March	Whole Year
1896.....	139	132	1,204
1898.....	67	137	1,325
1899.....	2	25	1,462
1900.....	8	5	1,086
1901.....	14	104	1,487

It will be seen that in two years out of five the plague was in full swing in February and in a third in March. It is not too much to say that the period February to early March is a very critical one in the course of the epidemic. For two weeks of this period we are to see suspended the practical measures which now for the first time have been adopted in Hongkong to check the outbreak of our deadliest scourge. A possible consequence may be—though all will earnestly pray that this will not come to pass—that the plague may be on us in an early stage of the cleansing operations. The Sanitary Board has deliberately stultified itself, and in return for nothing at all but Mr. FUNG WA CHUN's guarantee that the Chinese will "help us all the more" in our measures of cleansing and disinfection. We do not of course doubt Mr. FUNG WA

CHUN's good faith, but even if he can influence his poorer fellow-countrymen in the way he has undertaken we do not believe that the extra help from the Chinese whose dwellings, etc., are to be cleansed will compensate for the loss of precious time. The concession of an entire week perhaps is unavoidable, if to be regretted, but that the 8th to the 15th February should be added for no better reasons than those advanced at Thursday's meeting is absurd. We should like to have heard the other members who voted for Mr. FUNG WA CHUN's motion speak on it before they gave their adhesion to the proposal. It is to be noted that Mr. LAU CHUPAK spoke only of the Chinese having "so much to do before the New Year." Mr. BREWIN, out-Heroding Herod, did not improve his clients' case by his assertion of the equivalence of the Chinese fortnight to our three days at Christmas.

SHIPPING SUBSIDIES.

(Daily Press, 9th January.)

In Mr. Acting Consul WAWN's report on the trade of North Formosa for the year 1900, which has only just been published by the Foreign Office, some very interesting remarks are to be found under the head of Shipping, bearing on the question of the subsidies granted by the Japanese Government and their effect on competitors with the Japanese lines. From the tabulated return of foreign-going ships entering and cleared at Tamsui and Kelung during 1900 it appears that British shipping showed a remarkable decrease, only 56 vessels entering during the year, as against 100 in 1899. Japanese shipping slightly increased, 57 vessels in 1900 against 42 in 1899. Only one German vessel entered during 1900, as against nine in 1899. Mr. WAWN comments as follows:—"The decrease in British shipping is owing to the withdrawal of the regular service of steamers run by the Douglas Steamship Company, which found it impossible to compete successfully against the heavily subsidised Osaka Shosen Kaisha. Up to June, 1900, three Douglas steamers were on the run, but two were taken off at the end of that month, and only 51 Douglas steamers entered in 1900, as against 95 in 1899. It is a pity that some arrangement could not have been made between the rival companies; competition lowered freights to such an extent that the Douglas steamers made very little if any profit by the run, and I doubt whether the Japanese steamers would be able to keep up the service, were it not for the subsidy which they receive from the Government." Mr. WAWN anticipated a still further decrease in British shipping during the year just past. As the figures for 1901 are not yet to hand we cannot say to what extent this expectation has been verified. The figures of the previous year, however, are sufficiently significant. The question of shipping subsidies is one which is exciting much interest at home just now. In the December number of the *Monthly Review* there appears an article dealing with the subject by Mr. BENJAMIN TAYLOR, a writer who was already well known for his contributions to the discussion. A Select Committee of the House of Commons last year issued an interim report on the nature and influence of foreign subsidies on British shipping in which they recommended that the Committee be reappointed early in the next session of Parliament to continue the enquiry. Of this enquiry Mr. TAYLOR says that it is more likely to result in confusion of opinion than in material for legislation,

judging by the conflicting character of the evidence so far. In any case, however, he says, the enquiry is one which, at this particular juncture, we as a nation practically dependent on shipping cannot afford to neglect. "The question with us," he continues, "is not whether we shall subsidise our shipowners and shipbuilders, but how the bounties granted by other nations have affected or may affect both." With the natural development of foreign shipping Great Britain can compete tranquilly, but unnatural development by means of government aid is feared because its potentiality is unknown. Mr. TAYLOR ranges himself at once among the opponents of the bounty system, quoting McCULLOCH's saying that a trade that cannot be carried on without the aid of a bounty must be a naturally disadvantageous one, the history of all businesses carried on in this country by the aid of bounties proving that they are hardly less disadvantageous to those engaged in them than to the public. He goes on:—"This country has had experience of bounties for the encouragement of the fishing industry, and the provision of an important nursery for seamen. The system failed in both of the objects in view. The fishermen were distinctly injured by the bounties, which attracted into the industry a crowd of interlopers, who glutted the home markets and spoilt the export trade in herrings. Immediately after the bounties were repealed the quantity of herrings cured and exported doubled; thereby demonstrating that the best way to promote the industry was to leave it alone."

The author of the article in the *Monthly Review* deals in turn with the system of subsidies in the United States, Germany, France, Italy, Austria-Hungary, Russia, Belgium, Holland, and Japan, and gives the following table of mail subsidies and bounties of various character paid to shipping by the several maritime countries, the amounts being for the latest years obtainable:—

	£
United Kingdom (mails only)	764,117
United States do.	357,723
France (mails and bounties)	1,787,270
Germany (mail subsidies)	400,000
Italy (mails and bounties)	500,000
Russia (mails and bounties)	374,790
Austria-Hungary (mails and bounties)	400,000
Portugal (mail subsidies)	13,000
Netherlands do.	75,000
Norway do.	30,000
Sweden do.	17,000
Denmark do.	20,000
Japan (mails and bounties)	700,000

With regard to the mail subsidies of the United Kingdom (which, it may be noted, were reduced by £24,000 in 1900), our payment for mail and services is less than one-twelfth of one per cent. of the annual value of British sea traffic. According to the statement of Sir THOMAS SUTHERLAND himself, it is very questionable whether the P. and O. Company, one of the few companies who are paid a fixed annual amount by the Government, gain anything directly by the mail subsidies they receive, as they are forced to provide very expensive vessels, and to despatch them at stated times, whether full or empty. Such payments are very far from being bounties, says Mr. TAYLOR, and they are certainly very much less profitable to the owners than the payments to vessels engaged in the transport service to South Africa, which no one has thought of calling subsidies. Nor, he continues, can the Admiralty payment of £60,000 per annum, divided over ten vessels for the right to use them in case of need as cruisers, be regarded as bounty, for in order to adapt these vessels

to the possible service in view more money has to be spent over their construction than if they were for the merchant service pure and simple, and their cargo-carrying capacity is considerably reduced. As we have said, the evidence so far before the Select Committee of the House of Commons has been conflicting. Some leading mercantile men held that Great Britain should follow the example of Germany in promoting the shipping industry, but Mr. TAYLOR contends that the majority of British shipowners would be more satisfied if Government would leave them alone. He concludes a suggestive article with the following words, with the quotation of which we will take leave of the subject for the present:—"We do not seek to anticipate the decision of the Select Committee. It is quite possible that for Imperial or other reasons they may recommend the extension of Government aid to some branches of shipping, on the lines followed by the Colonial Office with regard to the new fruit service with the West Indies. What the British Mercantile Marine, however, needs is not more, but less, legislation. It is saddled with burdens that no other nation places on its shipping. It desires an end of restrictive legislation, and of the delusion that shipowners are a class of selfish money-grubbers, who must be compelled by law to work not for their own profit but for the maintenance and development of the foreign trade of the country. The best way to promote the shipping industry is to leave it alone."

THE COMING COMMERCIAL NEGOTIATIONS.

(Daily Press, 4th January.)

The North China Daily News of the 30th ult. publishes an interview with General SHARRETT, who is at present in Shanghai to conduct the negotiations in regard to the tariff question and the new commercial treaty for the United States Government. The American representative showed himself fairly ready to talk about his mission. With regard to the first part, the settlement of the tariff question, he spoke in a sanguine manner and said:—"It seems pretty well settled that there will be no obstacle in the way of a speedy adjustment of the question." He stated that he had been appointed with a view to the protection of American interests, but he had interviews with Sir ERNEST SATOW and with Sir JAMES MACKAY, and was satisfied that the tariff would be prepared in Shanghai by the British representatives and the commissioners already appointed from other countries, in conjunction with the merchants of those countries interested. A matter of far greater importance, he continued, was the commercial treaty, in the negotiation of which many conflicting interests would be brought into operation, rendering an unanimous conclusion on the part of the Commissioners very difficult. He expressed his doubts as to the willingness of the Chinese authorities in the matter and their ability to enforce any drastic measures which might be agreed upon. Hence General SHARRETT admitted that he had been reluctant to act for the United States, but he yielded to pressure from President ROOSEVELT. Asked what he thought would be the fundamental features of the new treaty with China, he contented himself with saying that "efforts will be made to open up fresh treaty ports, to secure for foreigners the right to build and own property, to work mines, construct railways in the interior, and generally to secure better trading facilities." Such a

programm, properly interpreted and made effective, would fulfill the earnest desires of the commercial men of all nations interested in China. But we fear that it will be a hard fight that will secure these concessions from China, and that when they are made it will require the utmost vigilance to see them transferred from the realm of paper to that of actual fact. It is, however, satisfactory to hear the representative of one great commercial nation speaking so freely of the aims of his government in the forthcoming negotiations; it would be more satisfactory to hear others following suit.

THE CRISIS: TELEGRAMS.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

SHANGHAI, 3rd January, 11 p.m.
The Emperor left Chenting by train for Paotingfu this morning.

SHANGHAI, 5th January, 6.16 p.m.
The Emperor arrived at Paotingfu on Friday and leaves again on Tuesday morning, arriving at Peking on the afternoon of the same day.

SHANGHAI, 7th January, 8.37 p.m.
The Chinese Court, welcomed by Imperial Princes, Ministers of State, Civil and Military mandarins, has arrived at the Palace in Peking, passing the Yangting Gate at 1.30 p.m. to-day.

SHANGHAI, 10th January, 7.42 p.m.
The Astor House Laundry at Tientsin was robbed last night, the coolies on the premises being killed and the clothes stolen. The German authorities are pursuing the robbers.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on the 9th inst. in the Board Room. Present:—Dr. J. M. Atkinson, Principal Medical Officer (President); Hon. A. W. Brewin, Registrar-General (Vice-President); Hon. W. Chatham, Director of Public Works; Dr. F. W. Clark, Medical Officer of Health; Mr. F. J. Badeley, Acting Captain Superintendent of Police; Lieut.-Colonel Hughes, R.A.M.C.; Mr. E. Osborne, Mr. Fung Wa Chun, Mr. Lau Chupak, and Mr. G. A. Woodcock (Secretary).

AMENDMENT OF DRAINAGE BYE-LAW.

The following suggested amendment of Bye-law No. 30 of the Drainage Bye-laws contained in Schedule B of Ordinance No. 13 of 1901 was submitted:—"Rain-water pipes and waste-pipes from baths, sinks, and other similar appliances on the upper floors of buildings shall be of cast-iron socketed pipes or wrought-iron welded pipes with screwed joints coated with bituminous composition, or in the case of wrought-iron, galvanised; or of well-glazed stoneware socketed pipes or other approved materials, securely fixed outside the wall, and provided at each point of connection with a suitable head, and at their lower extremity with a bend, shoe, or pedestal pipe. All joints of stoneware pipes to be made in the manner provided by No. 5 of these laws. Provided that waste-pipes and rain-water pipes abutting on any street shall be of cast-iron or welded wrought-iron, properly jointed in cement, and wherever practicable rain-water pipes shall be carried under the footpath and discharged into the side channel."

Dr. CLARK—I beg to move the adoption of the bye-law as amended. As the Board instructed, the architects were approached, and replies received from four or five of them. These were submitted to the Surveyor, and the Director of Public Works. There are practically two recommendations; one by all of them. The bye-law previously provided that cast-iron pipes should be jointed with cement or lead. It appeared to be impracticable to joint them with lead so that the Director of Public Works and the Surveyor

agreed that they should be jointed with cement. One firm of architects suggested that iron pipes should only be required in public streets, by which, I presume, are meant Crown streets; and in view of the large number of streets owned by private individuals which are important thoroughfares the Director of Public Works, the Surveyor and myself thought it would be better to provide an exemption which the Board can grant occasionally rather than give a general exemption as to the use of pipes other than iron. That will meet their views. At any rate, it will give the Board an opportunity to grant exemption whenever they think fit. Otherwise we will require iron pipes in streets which are used as thoroughfares, which is important, because the ordinary earthenware pipe is apt to be broken and the ground floors of houses saturated with drainage.

Hon. Mr. BREWIN—It may be considered that the architects think this satisfactory?

Dr. CLARK—I take it that it is so. Those are the only two objections they raised.

Hon. Mr. CHATHAM—I beg to second the adoption of this new bye-law, and I think every reasonable concession has made to them in the matter. It is not desirable that iron pipes should be given up except in what are really public streets—streets over Crown land—but as Dr. Clark has explained, this bye-law gives the Board the option of allowing them in places which may come under the definition of a street but where there is no necessity for them being of iron.

The amended bye-law was unanimously passed.

PREVENTION OF PLAGUE.

Dr. CLARK moved—"That the Board define that portion of the City of Victoria east of Eastern Street, and west of Tank Lane and Cleverley Street as districts within which officers of the Board shall make a house-to-house visitation for the purpose of cleansing and disinfecting the premises contained therein in accordance with Bye-law No. 1 of the Bye-laws governing the prevention of epidemic, endemic, or contagious disease made under section 13 of Ordinance 13 of 1901." He said—This is simply a continuation of the cleansing work which was begun five or six weeks ago. The whole of Nos. 9 and 10 Districts are now completed. Wanchai will be finished at the end of this week, and we want more districts to cleanse. So I beg to move that these districts, which are practically Nos. 7 and 8, be declared districts in which the work shall be carried on.

Lieut.-Colonel HUGHES seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

Mr. FUNG WA CHUN—In connection with this resolution, I beg to move further that the cleansing and fumigation operations in the houses therein defined as well as in other districts be discontinued from the 1st of February and not resumed until seven days after the Chinese New Year—the 15th February, owing to the holidays and because of the preparations being made by each family and shop for the celebration of the approaching New Year.

Mr. LAU CHUPAK—I beg to second the motion, which I think is very reasonable, because the Chinese have so much to do before the end of the year.

Mr. FUNG WA CHUN—I am asking a fortnight—seven days before and seven days after.

Mr. OSBORNE—I think the request put forward is reasonable and that the Board should grant it. In the first place very little work probably would be done during the fortnight that Mr. Fung Wa Chun refers to. The cleansing gangs themselves no doubt will want a holiday and will take it. Therefore it is just as well that we should suspend the operations during the week before and the week after the Chinese New Year. Another reason why I think this concession might be made is that nearly all the Chinese or at all events the better class of Chinese shops and dwellings are cleansed just before the Chinese New Year and that cleansing would to some extent take the place of the cleansing done by our own people.

The PRESIDENT—I should like to take the opinion of the Medical Officer of Health. Fifteen days looks rather a long time to suspend those operations which we all consider so necessary. I understand certain work can be carried on during this time with reference

to the cleansing of the streets; but 14 days—does it take the whole of that time for the holidays?

Mr. FUNG WA CHUN—Yes, as I told you at the Board, there are preparations for the New Year which the Chinese naturally do not want to be interfered with. I may inform the members that, according to Chinese custom, the poorer people do more for the Chinese New Year than the well-to-do people. They prepare a sort of cakes or puddings as presents for their friends. If we go and disinfect their houses, they could not do that, and besides the coolies work as hard as possible to save a little money for the New Year, and if they were expected to stay at home and assist in cleansing they could not work. They must have at least a few days for their New Year.

Hon. Mr. BREWIN—I do not think the request is unreasonable. We are all aware that the Chinese New Year holidays last a longer time even than Mr. Fung mentioned, that shops and places of business do not open sometimes until the 12th or 13th; and as a matter of fact I think it is the 7th day of the Chinese New Year which is almost as important as the Chinese New Year itself. Of course it is unfortunate that the Chinese should require so many days for their New Year holidays; but I think that every day that Mr. Fung has selected is considered by them to be as much a holiday as we consider our own Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and the day after, to be; and I do not think they are asking for any more than we should be if we asked that these three days should be exempted.

Mr. FUNG WA CHUN—I think I should tell you that the Chinese do not have holidays except at the New Year. (Laughter.) Well, they have no Christmas Day, no Sunday, no Bank holidays or Easter Monday. New Year is the only time they get.

Mr. OSBORNE—I should say they have about two months every year.

Dr. CLARK—I think we had better give way. I have done my level best to persuade Mr. Fung to cut it down to a week, and I should think a week is enough. But if he will guarantee that the Chinese will help us all the more, I think we should give way and concede a fortnight.

Mr. FUNG WA CHUN—I will do that.

The supplementary motion was carried unanimously.

WORK OF CLEANSING GANGS.

The SECRETARY laid on the table a record of the work done by the cleansing gangs, which showed that during the fortnight ended 4th January 691 houses had been dealt with, 1,406 floors fumigated, and 1,774 floors, cleansed. These show a considerable falling-off on the figures of the previous fortnight owing to the Christmas and New Year holidays.

COLLECTION OF RATS.

A return was submitted showing that the number of rats collected by the rat-catchers during the four weeks ended 30th December, 1901, was 6,253—alive, 1,316; dead, 4,937. During the preceding five weeks 4,570 was the number collected—alive, 1,547; dead 3,023.

The Vice-President minuted:—"An increase of over 100 per cent. in the number of dead rats."

PROVISION OF YARDS.

On the motion of the PRESIDENT an application for exemption from the provision of yards of the full size in respect of houses Nos. 67, 69, and 71, Kramer Street, Taikoktsui, was granted, with certain modifications.

WATER ANALYSES.

There were laid on the table returns regarding the analyses by Mr. Frank Browne, Government Analyst, of water from the Kowloon, Tytam, and Pokfula reservoirs. In each case, the results showed that the water was of excellent quality.

LIMEWASHING RETURN.

A report was submitted showing that 2,806 houses in the Western District had been lime-washed during the fortnight ended 31st December.

MORTALITY STATISTICS.

The mortality statistics submitted showed that during the week ended 21st December the death-rate was 19.3 per 1,000 of the population per annum as compared with 23.6 in the preceding week and 24.2 in the corresponding week of the previous year.

DEFENCE AGAINST RATS.

The PRESIDENT drew the attention of members to four samples of the netting which it is proposed to put over the mouths of drains to prevent the egress of rats.

Three of those guards were made of wire-netting of various sizes of mesh. The other was made by the insertion of a thin metal rod between the bars of the existing drain-gratings.

After careful inspection by the members of the different samples it was agreed on the motion of Lieut.-Colonel HUGHES, seconded by Mr. OSBORNE, to adopt the wire-net type, the mesh to be of a medium size.

Mr. OSBORNE—I would suggest that when these guards are put on the gratings, the police be asked to look after them so as to meet the objection that they will be choked with *d. bris*. I think the majority of householders would themselves help to clear the drain if they found the street being flooded. The Captain Superintendent of Police might instruct them.

Mr. BADELEY—We could keep an eye on them to prevent them being choked, but it is hardly the work of the police to clean them.

This was all the public business.

DEPARTURE OF H.E. THE GOVERNOR.

His Excellency the Governor, Sir Henry Arthur Blake, G.C.M.G., left the Colony on the 4th inst. by the P. & O. *Valetta* for a three months' holiday at home, to return in April with Lady Blake. His departure was made from Blake Pier at a quarter past eleven o'clock in the forenoon and was witnessed by a numerous concourse of people, including many ladies. A guard of honour of 200 men of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers was in attendance at the pier, under Captain Rotherham. They marched from barracks headed by the brass band and the white goat which is so prominent a member of the Fusiliers, and the regimental colours were also in evidence. Order among the large crowd of people who had assembled to witness the departure was kept by the police, and a special guard of eight men under Sergeant Garrod attended on His Excellency. It was shortly after eleven o'clock when His Excellency arrived at the pier. He was carried down in a chair, and on his arrival went up to and greeted Major-General Sir W. J. Gascoigne, K.C.M.G., Officer Commanding the Troops; the military meantime giving the general salute, and the band playing the National Anthem. The spectators paid their respects by lifting their hats. His Excellency proceeded to inspect the column, accompanied by Major-General Gascoigne, Colonel Browne, commanding the R.E.; Major Hamilton D.A.A.G.A.; Lieut. Blake, A.D.C. to the Governor, and Captain Trefusis, A.D.C. to the General. When the inspection had been concluded, His Excellency shook hands with and bade good-bye to Captain Rotherham; then he lifted his hat to those present, and, after shaking hands with the members of the Legislative Council, Government officials, and many others present and conversing briefly with the Colonial Secretary, Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, C.M.G., and H.E. the General, he went on board the launch *Victoria* which lay alongside the pier. As he stepped on to the launch the war-ships in the Harbour fired a salute. The launch immediately made her way to the s.s. *Valetta*, which with the Governor on board left shortly afternoon. Among those who assembled to wish him *bon voyage* were, beside those already mentioned, Hon. W. Meigh Goodman, Attorney-General; Hon. W. Chatham, Director of Public Works; Hon. A. W. Brewin, Registrar-General; Hon. Commander R. Murray Rumsey, R.N., Harbour Master; Hon. C. McI. Messer, Acting Colonial Treasurer; Hon. J. Thurburn, Hon. J. J. Bell Irving, Hon. T. H. Whitehead, His Honour A. G. Wise, Acting Chief Justice; Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, Right Rev. Bishop Piazzoli, Commander W. C. H. Hastings, R.N., Postmaster-General, Mr. R. F. Johnston, Acting Clerk of Councils, Sr. Conselheiro A. G. Romano, Sr. J. J. Leiria, Mr. F. A. Hazeland, Police Magistrate; Mr. F. J. Badeley, Acting Captain Superintendent of Police, Mr. H. H. Gompertz, Mr. Basil Taylor, Assistant Harbour Master; Mr. E. C. Lewis, Assistant Postmaster; Mr. A. Babington, Mr. A. Mackenzie, Mr. R. Shewan,

Mr. W. Norton Kyshe, Mr. H. P. Tooker, Rev. R. F. Cobbold, etc., and many leading members of the Chinese community. As the *Valetta* steamed past the various war-ships their crews manned the sides and the bands played patriotic airs.

At a meeting of the Executive Council held shortly after His Excellency had taken his departure, the prescribed oaths of office were administered by His Honour A. G. Wise, Acting Chief Justice, to His Excellency Major-General Sir W. J. Gascoigne, K.C.M.G., who assumes the administration of the Government of this Colony and its Dependencies during the Governor's absence.

Lieut. Blake, H.E. the Governor's son and A.D.C., will shortly leave for home also.

THE FINAL PROTOCOL.

The following is the official English translation of the French text of the final protocol made between China and eleven Powers, 1901:—

The Plenipotentiaries of Germany, Monsieur A. Mumm von Schwartzstein; Austria-Hungary, Baron M. Czikan; Belgium, Monsieur Joostens; Spain, Monsieur B. J. de Cologan; United States, Mr. W. W. Rockhill; France, Monsieur Beau; Great Britain, Sir Ernest Satow; Italy, Marquis Salvago Raggi; Japan, Monsieur Jutaro Komuro; Netherlands, Monsieur F. M. Knobel; Russia, Monsieur Michael de Giers; and the Plenipotentiaries of China His Highness Yi-Kuang, Prince of the first rank; Ch'ing, President of the Board of Foreign Affairs; and His Excellency Li Hung-chang, Count of the first rank; Su-Yi, Tutor of the Heir Apparent, Grand Secretary of the Wen-Hua Throne Hall, Minister of Commerce, Superintendent of Trade for the North, Governor-General of Chihli, have met for the purpose of declaring that China has complied with the conditions laid down in the Note of the 22nd of December, 1900, and which were accepted in their entirety by His Majesty the Emperor of China in a Decree dated the 27th of December, 1900 (Annex No. 1).

Art. I.—By an Imperial Edict of the 9th of June last (Annex No. 2) T'ai-Feng, Prince of the first rank, Chun, was appointed Ambassador of His Majesty the Emperor of China and directed in that capacity to convey to His Majesty the Emperor of Germany the expression of the regrets of His Majesty the Emperor of China and of the Chinese Government at the assassination of His Excellency the late Baron von Ketteler, German Minister. Prince Chun left Peking the 12th of July last to carry out the orders which had been given him.

Art. II.—The Chinese Government has stated that it will erect on the spot of the assassination of H. E. the late Baron von Ketteler, a commemorative monument, worthy of the rank of the deceased, and bearing an inscription in the Latin, German, and Chinese languages, which shall express the regrets of H. M. the Emperor of China for the murder committed.

The Chinese Plenipotentiaries have informed H. E. the German Plenipotentiary in a letter dated the 25th of July last (Annex No. 3) that an arch of the whole width of the street would be erected on the said spot, and that work on it was begun the 25th of June last.

Art. IIa.—Imperial Edicts of the 13th and 21st of February, 1901 (Annexes Nos. 4, 5 and 6) inflicted the following punishments on the principal authors of the attempts and crimes committed against the Foreign Governments and their nationals:—

Tsai-I, Prince Tuan, and Tsai-Lan, Duke Fu-kuo, were sentenced to be brought before the Autumnal Court of Assize for execution and it was agreed that if the Emperor saw fit to grant them their lives, they should be exiled to Turkestan and there imprisoned for life, without the possibility of commutation of these punishments.

Tsai Hsun, Prince Chuang, Ying-Nien, President of the Court of Censors; and Chao Shu-chiao, President of the Board of Punishments, were condemned to commit suicide.

Yu Hsien, Governor of Shansi; Ch'i Hsin, President of the Board of Rites; and Hsu Ch'eng-yu, formerly senior Vice-President of the Board of Punishments, were condemned to death.

Posthumous degradation was inflicted on K'ang Yi, Assistant Grand Secretary, President of the Board of Works; Hsu Tung, Grand Secretary; and Li Ping-heng, former Governor-General of Szu-ch'uan.

Imperial Edict of February 13th, 1901 (Annex No. 7) rehabilitated the memories of Hsu Yong-yi, President of the Board of War; Li Shan, President of the Board of Works; Hsu Ching-ch'eng, Senior Vice-President of the Board of Civil Office; Lien Yuan, Vice-Chancellor of the Grand Council; and Yuan Ch'ang, Vice-President of the Court of Sacrifices, who had been put to death for having protested against the outrageous breaches of International Law of last year.

Prince Chuang committed suicide the 21st of February, 1901; Ying Nien and Chao Shu-chiao the 24th; Yu-Hsien was executed the 22nd, Chi-Hsin and Hsu Ch'eng-yu on the 26th, Tung Fu-hsiang, General in Kansu, has been deprived of his office by Imperial Edict of the 13th of February, 1901, pending the determination of the final punishment to be inflicted on him.

Imperial Edicts dated the 29th April and the 19th August, 1901, have inflicted various punishments on the provincial officials convicted of the crimes and outrages of last summer.

Art. IIb.—An Imperial Edict promulgated the 19th August, 1901 (Annex No. 8) ordered the suspension of official examinations for five years in all cities where foreigners were massacred or submitted to cruel treatment.

Art. III.—So as to make honourable reparation for the assassination of Mr. Sugiyama, Chancellor of the Japanese Legation, H.M. the Emperor of China by an Imperial Edict of the 18th of June, 1901 (Annex No. 9) appointed Na T'ung, Vice-President of the Board of Finances, to be his Envoy Extraordinary, and specially directed him to convey to H.M. the Emperor of Japan the expression of the regrets of H.M. the Emperor of China and of his Government at the assassination of Mr. Sugiyama.

Art. IV.—The Chinese Government has agreed to erect an expiatory monument in each of the foreign or international cemeteries which were desecrated or in which the tombs were destroyed.

It has been agreed with the Representatives of the Powers that the Legations interested shall settle the details for the erection of these monuments, China bearing all the expense thereof, estimated at ten thousand taels for the cemeteries at Peking and in its neighbourhood, and at five thousand taels for the cemeteries in the Provinces. The amounts have been paid and the list of these cemeteries is enclosed herewith. (Annex No. 10.)

Art. V.—China has agreed to prohibit the importation into its territory of arms and ammunition, as well as of materials exclusively used for the manufacture of arms and ammunition.

An Imperial Edict has been issued on the 25th of August, 1901 (Annex No. 11) forbidding said importation for a term of two years. New Edicts may be issued subsequently extending this by other successive terms of two years in case of necessity recognised by the Power.

Art. VI.—By an Imperial Edict dated the 22nd of May, 1901 (Annex No. 12) H. M. the Emperor of China agreed to pay the Powers an indemnity of four hundred and fifty millions of Haikwan taels.

This sum represents the total amount of the indemnities for States, Companies or Societies private individuals and Chinese referred to in Article VI of the Note of December 22nd, 1900.

(a) These four hundred and fifty millions constitute a gold debt calculated at the rate of the Haikwan tael to the gold currency of each country as indicated below.

Haikwan Tael—Mark	3.055
Austro-Hungary crown	3.595
Gold dollar	0.742
Franc	3.740
Pound sterling	£0. 3s 0d.
Yen	1.407
Netherlands florin	1.796
Gold rouble (17.424 dolias fine)	1.412

This sum in gold shall bear interest at 4 per cent. per annum, and the capital shall be reimbursed by China in thirty-nine years in the manner indicated in the annexed plan of amortization. (Annex No. 13). Capital and interest shall be payable in gold or at the rates

of exchange corresponding to the dates at which the different payments shall fall due.

The amortization shall commence on the 1st of January, 1902, and shall finish at the end of the year 1940. The amortizations are payable annually, the first payment being fixed on the first of January, 1903.

Interest shall run from the first of July, 1901, but the Chinese Government shall have the right to pay off within a term of three years, beginning January, 1902, the arrears of the first six months ending the 31st of December, 1901, on condition, however, that it pays compound interest at the rate of four cent. per annum on the sums, the payments of which shall have been thus deferred.

Interest shall be payable semi-annually, the first payment being fixed on the 1st of July, 1902.

(b) The service of the debt shall take place in Shanghai in the following manner:—

Each Power shall be represented by a delegate on a commission of bankers authorised to receive the amount of interest and amortization which shall be paid to it by the Chinese Authorities designated for that purpose, to divide it among the interested parties and to give a receipt for the same.

(c) The Chinese Government shall deliver to the Doyen of the Diplomatic Corps at Peking a bond for the lump sum, which shall subsequently be converted into fractional bonds bearing the signature of the delegates of the Chinese Government designated for that purpose. This operation and all those relating to issuing of the bonds shall be performed by the above-mentioned Commission, in accordance with the instructions which the Powers shall send their delegates.

(d) The proceeds of the revenues assigned to the payment of the bonds shall be paid monthly to the Commission.

(e) The revenues assigned as security for the bonds are the following:—

(1) The balance of the revenues of the Imperial Maritime Customs after payment of the interest and amortization of preceding loans secured on those revenues, plus the proceeds of the raising to five per cent. effective of the present tariff on maritime imports, including articles until now on the free list, but exempting rice, foreign cereals and flour, gold and silver bullion and coin.

(2) The revenues of the native Customs, administered in the open ports by the Imperial Maritime Customs.

(3) The total revenues of the salt gabelle, exclusive of the fraction previously set aside for other foreign loans.

The raising of the present tariff on imports to five per cent. effective is agreed to on conditions mentioned below. It shall be put in force two months after the signing of the present protocol, and no exceptions shall be made except for merchandise in transit not more than ten days after the said signing.

(1) All duties levied on imports *ad valorem* shall be converted as far as possible and as soon as may be into specific duties.

This conversion shall be made in the following manner: The average value of merchandise at the time of their landing during three years 1897, 1898 and 1899, that is to say, the market price less the amount of import duties and incidental expenses, shall be taken as the basis for the valuation of merchandise.

Pending the result of the work of conversion, duties shall be levied *ad valorem*.

(2) The beds of the rivers Whangpoo and Peiho shall be improved with the financial participation of China.

Art. VII.—The Chinese Government has agreed that the quarter occupied by the Legations shall be considered as one specially reserved for their use and placed under their exclusive control, in which Chinese shall not have the right to reside and which may be made defensible.

The limits of this quarter have been fixed as follows on the annexed plan (Annex No. 14):—

On the East, Ketteler Street (10, 11, 12).
On the North, the line 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10.
On the West, the line 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.
On the South, the line 12-1 drawn along the exterior base of the Tartar wall and following the line of the bastions.

In the protocol annexed to the letter of 16th of January, 1901, China recognised the right

of each Power to maintain a permanent guard in the said quarter for the defence of its Legation.

Art. VIII.—The Chinese Government has consented to raise the forts of Taku and those which might impede free communication between Peking and the sea—steps have been taken for carrying this out.

Art. IX.—The Chinese Government conceded the right to the Powers in the Protocol annexed to the letter of the 16th of January, 1901, to occupy certain points, to be determined by an agreement between them for the maintenance of open communication between the capital and the sea. The points occupied by the Powers are:—Huang-t'un, Lung-fang, Yang-t'ung, Tientsin, Chun-liang-Ch'eng, Tong ku, Su-t'ai, Tong-shan, Lan-chou, Chang-li, Ch'in-wang Tao, Shanghai-kwan.

Art. X.—The Chinese Government has agreed to post and to have published during two years in all district cities the following Imperial Edicts:—

(a) Edict of the 1st of February, 1901 (Annex No. 15) prohibiting for ever, under pain of death, membership in an anti-foreign society.

(b) Edicts of the 13th and 21st of February, 29th of April and 19th of August, 1901, enumerating the punishments inflicted on the guilty.

(c) Edict of the 19th of August, 1901, prohibiting examinations in all cities where foreigners were massacred or subjected to cruel treatment.

(d) Edict of the 1st of February, 1901 (Annex No. 16) declaring all Governors-general, Governors and Provincial or local officials responsible for order in their respective districts, and that in case of new anti-foreign troubles or other infractions of the Treaties which shall not be immediately repressed and the authors of which shall not have been punished, these officials shall be immediately dismissed without possibility of being given new functions or new honours.

The posting of these Edicts is being carried on throughout the Empire.

Art. XI.—The Chinese Government has agreed to negotiate the amendments deemed necessary by the Foreign Governments to the Treaties of Commerce and Navigation and the other subjects concerning commercial relations with the object of facilitating them.

At present, and as a result of the stipulation contained in Article VI concerning the indemnity, the Chinese Government agree to assist in the improvement of the courses of the rivers Peiho and Whangpoo, as stated below.

(a) The works for the improvement of the navigability of the Peiho, begun in 1898 with the co-operation of the Chinese Government, have been resumed under the direction of an International Commission. As soon as the administration of Tientsin shall have been handed back to the Chinese Government it will be in a position to be represented on this Commission, and will pay each year a sum of 60,000 Haikwan Taels for maintaining the works.

(b) A Conservancy Board, charged with the management and control of the works for straightening the Whangpoo and the improvement of the course of that river, is hereby created.

This Board shall consist of members representing the interests of the Chinese Government and those of foreigners in the shipping trade of Shanghai.

The expenses incurred for the works and the general management of the undertaking, are estimated at the annual sum of 460,000 Haikwan Taels for the first twenty years. This sum shall be supplied in equal portions by the Chinese Government and the foreign interests concerned. Detailed stipulations concerning the composition, duties and revenue of the Conservancy Board are embodied in Annex No. 17.

Art. XII.—An Imperial Edict of the 24th of July, 1901 (Annex No. 18) reformed the Office of Foreign Affairs, Tsungli Yamen, on the lines indicated by the Powers, that is to say, transformed it into a Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Wai Wu Pu, which takes precedence over the six other Ministries of State: the same Edict appointed the principal members of this Ministry.

An agreement has also been reached concern-

ing the modification of Court Ceremonial as regards the Foreign Representatives, and has been the subject of several notes from the Chinese Plenipotentiaries, the substance of which has been embodied in a memorandum herewith annexed. (Annex No. 19.)

Finally it is expressly understood that as regards the declarations specified above and the annexed documents originating with the Foreign Plenipotentiaries, the French Text only is authoritative.

The Chinese Government having thus complied to the satisfaction of the Powers with the conditions laid down in the above mentioned Note of December 22nd, 1900, the Powers have agreed to accede to the wish of China to terminate the situation created by the disorders of the summer of 1900. In consequence thereof the Foreign Plenipotentiaries are authorised to declare in the names of their Governments that, with the exception of the Legation guards mentioned in Article VII, the International troops will completely evacuate the city of Peking on the 17th of September, 1901, and with the exception of the localities mentioned in Article IX, will withdraw from the Province of Chihli on the 22nd of September, 1901.

The present final protocol has been drawn up in twelve identical copies and signed by all the Plenipotentiaries of the contracting countries. One copy shall be given to each of the Foreign Plenipotentiaries, and one copy shall be given to the Chinese Plenipotentiaries.

(Signed)

A. VON MUMM
M. CZIKANN
JOOSTENS
B. J. DE COLOGAN
W. W. ROCKHILL
BEAU
ERNEST SATOW
SALVAGO RAGGI
JUTARO KOMURA
F. M. KNOBEL
M. DE GIERS
YI K'UANG
LI HUNG-CHANG

LOSS OF THE S.S. "CLARA."

Our Hoihow correspondent writes as follows with regard to the loss of the s.s. *Clara*, already reported in the *Daily Press*:—Early on Monday morning, the 30th December, Hoihow town was stirred by the sad news of the loss of the German steamer *Clara*, a regular trader between Hongkong, Hoihow, Pakhoi, and Haiphong. It appears that the *Clara* was on a voyage from Haiphong, via Pakhoi and Hoihow, to Hongkong with a full cargo of 9,000 bags of rice and sundries, and passengers. She left Hoihow at about 2 p.m. on Saturday, the 28th December; cleared Hainan Head at 5 p.m., and took the middle channel. At about 7 p.m. when 17 miles to the East of Hainan Head she ran on a sandbank. The engines were at once stopped and reversed; after a little time she got off and anchored in deep water. Soundings showed that she was in fifteen fathoms; upon sounding the wells it was found that she was making water; the pumps were then set to work, but they could not gain upon the water, which was increasing every moment. About midnight the lower holds were flooded and the water increasing with a rush. She filled gradually and at about 2 a.m. on the 29th the engine-rooms commenced to be flooded, and the fires were put out. The Chinese passengers, of whom there were about fifty, then became rowdy and tried to take to the boats. It was about three o'clock when they cut the falls of four boats and scrambled into them, but the European officers managed to have a little control, so much so that the Hoihow agent of the unfortunate vessel, Mr. Chow Kwan Cheong, was put on board the first boat to leave the ship in charge of the chief officer; in the same boat there were two European passengers from Haiphong and some of the crew to man the boat, which arrived in Hoihow harbour at four o'clock on the morning of the 30th. The other three boats were lost sight of. The first boat boarded the Chinese gunboat *Kong Kam*, which was lying in harbour. This vessel got up steam and left at once for the scene of the disaster, carrying

on board the chief officer of the *Clara* and the European passengers.

Of the other three boats, one was in charge of the second officer, and one in that of the second engineer. The master, Capt. Ulderup, took to a life-raft and put up an awning for a sail, set course to Hoihow, and landed on Bak Sha Head, from whence he engaged a chair and came to Hoihow, arriving at 4 o'clock p.m. on the 30th. There were two Chinese passengers with him on the raft. When the captain left the ship all hopes were given up of saving her, as the water was increasing all the time. The revenue cutter *Likin* was sent next morning to pick up the missing boats and the rest of the passengers, of whom there were still about twenty left on the wreck. Capt. Ulderup went on the *Likin*.

Since writing the above the chief and second engineer and a few more passengers arrived in Hoihow, leaving the third engineer and second officer and about seventeen Chinese passengers still to be saved. Those who have arrived saved nothing but the clothes they stood in.

THE KANSU ANTI-CHRISTIAN OUTBREAK.

The Imperial Decree, dated the 28th ult., runs as follows:—

We issued yesterday an edict with reference to the rising of desperadoes in Yingtze, belonging to Pinglohsien, Kansu, whereby not only were the country people robbed and plundered, but certain missionaries and converts, and commanded Sung Fan (Manchu), Viceroy of Shen-Kan, on the one hand to combine with Ts'ên Ch'un-hsuen, Governor of Shansi, and surround the said desperadoes and capture every one of them, on the other hand, to denounce in the severest terms the culpable local civil and military officials of said district who had been unable to properly protect the missionaries and converts residing within their jurisdiction. We have now received the said Viceroy's report on the matter, and we hereby command that Wang Shu-huas, retiring magistrate of Pinglohsien; Li Han-ch'ing, present substantive magistrate of Pinglohsien; and Yeh Ch'ing-yung, Lieutenant-Colonel of same district, be forthwith cashiered and given a certain period of time to capture all of the desperadoes connected with the rising and have every one of them beheaded and punished to the utmost extent of the law. If the said officials do not succeed in running down and capturing the said desperadoes within the said limit of time, the guilty officials concerned are to be dismissed for ever from the public service. The said Viceroy must himself diligently direct his civil and military officials to do their best to capture the said desperadoes as soon as possible and settle matters at an early date, while, on the other hand, orders must be issued insisting that extra care must be exercised to protect the churches and missionaries everywhere in Kansu and Shensi; let there be no lack of vigilance, lest the officials concerned be visited with condign and heavy punishment.

Another decree says:—

We have already issued decrees concerning the cashiering of the culpable officials with reference to the attack on missionaries and their converts at Yingtze, in Pinglohsien, Kansu. We have now again received a memorial from Sung Fan, Viceroy of Shen-Kan, in which he reports that the Missionary Mei (a Belgian priest) and four of his converts have since died from their wounds from the said desperadoes, and that he had sent the Taotai Chang T'ing-ch'ü with troops to capture murderers, as well as to protect the rest of the people in the disturbed district. Now all civil as well as military officials of the Empire are required to protect churches and converts. This lack of vigilance and care whereby a missionary and some converts are killed is very sad and we deeply sympathise with the sufferers. Sung Fan is ordered to give at once all necessary aid in money, etc., and to summarily decapitate all the desperadoes he has captured, and will have to capture. With reference to the cashiered officials, if they make any more delay in arresting all concerned in these murders they are to be dismissed from the service for ever.

MAESTRO GALLUZZI'S CONCERT.

At the City Hall on the 7th inst. a concert was given by Maestro Galluzzi, aided by a number of local amateurs. The audience, which included Commodore F. Powell, C.B., was fairly large and very appreciative. From the opening duet by Messrs. Galluzzi and Ward to the closing chorons an admirable selection of vocal and instrumental music was provided. All the singers were well received, particularly Miss Loureiro and Mr. P. W. Goldring, the latter's encore "Song of Thanksgiving" by Allitsen being excellently rendered. Mr. Mirow was in fine voice also. Maestro Galluzzi himself proved once more his skill as a pianist, and the Trio for violin, cello and pianoforte (allegro) was among the best items of the night.

The following was the programme:

FIRST PART.

1. Pianoforte Duet. "Polonaise" ... A. Dvorák
Messrs. Ward and Galluzzi.
 2. Song. "The Guardian Angel" ... Gounod
Mrs. Mudie.
 3. Song. "A Ro e" ... Curschmann
Mr. Mirow.
 4. Cello Solo. "Ballade" ... Goltermann
Mr. Koenig.
 5. Song. "Ninon" ... Tosti
Miss Loureiro.
 6. Trio - Violin, Cello, Pianoforte
"Adagio (Op. 1)"
"Allegro (Op. 2)" ... Beethoven
Messrs. Graca, Koenig, Galluzzi.
 7. Song. "The Old Story" ... Rubinstein
Mrs. Brewitt.
- #### SECOND PART.
8. Song. "Still Wie die Nacht" ... E. Bohm
Mr. Goldring.
 9. Pianoforte Solo. "Waltz No. 3" ... Chopin
Maestro Galluzzi.
 10. Song. "The Flight of Ages" ... Bevan
Mr. Terrill.
 11. Duet. "La Serenata" ... Rossini
Miss Loureiro and Mr. Musso.
 12. Violin Solo. "Scene de Ballet" ... Beriot
Mr. Graca.
 13. Song. "Quando Volevano" from
I Rantzau ... Mascagni
Mr. Musso.
 14. Semi-Chorus. "Il Riso"—Air of the
16th Century ... Padre Martini
Mrs. Mudie, Miss Hance, Miss Loureiro,
Miss M. Loureiro, Messrs. Goldring,
Kraal, Mirow, Musso, and Terrill.

MACAO.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Macao, 1st January.

THE TROUBLE IN THE GARRISON.

Following the telegram which I despatched to you to-day, I write now to supplement the details of the report as to the suspected mutiny of the recently arrived infantry soldiers of the Expeditionary Force. It is difficult to discover any well-established grievance to justify the alleged existence of a plot which, had it had time to hatch, might have been attended with such disastrous consequences to the Holy City of Macao. At the court-martial, which will be held to-morrow, it is to be hoped that every effort will be made to sift the question thoroughly, and, if any real grievance is found to exist, that no pains will be spared by the responsible authorities to set matters aright. Since the arrival of the new Garrison no trouble with the men has been heard of, and no untoward event was at any time anticipated. The startling news, therefore, that gained currency in town to-day of a serious dissatisfaction coming to a head last night amongst the infantry soldiers came as a painful surprise to the peaceful residents.

The alleged grievances are stated to be the insufficiency of the pay of the soldiers and a dissatisfaction with the quality and quantity of their rations. As to the first of these reasons there should be no ground for contention, seeing that the rates of pay which the officers and men alike accepted were fixed in Lisbon before the enlistment of the present Garrison for service in this Colony. On this score the difficulty should, without doubt, be met satisfactorily to all parties. And as to the second, the official enquiry that will take place to-morrow will reveal the true state of affairs.

It was a fortunate circumstance that better counsel prevailed with one of the men, which prompted the disclosure to Lieutenant Marques of the alleged existence of a plot to overpower the officers. Lieutenant Marques, though a comparatively young officer, being only thirty-seven years of age, is well-known to be held in high esteem by the men under his command, and the experience he had gained on active service in Timor during its troublous times there stood him in good stead at the present juncture. With commendable promptitude and without much ado, but being, in the first instance, invested with the necessary powers by his superior officers, he entered the barracks at San Francisco, at about eight o'clock last night, where the disaffected men were quartered, and ordered the immediate inspection of all arms, when it was discovered that the rifle of one man was loaded. Suspicion having fallen on three men, their arrest was ordered. One of them is now detained on board the gunboat *Zaire*, another in Monte Fort, and the third in the provost prison. These men will, as stated above, be brought before a court-martial to-morrow, at which Major Bragança (officer commanding the force) will preside, assisted by Lieutenant Marques. Dr. Pesanha, barrister-at-law, will appear as counsel for the Crown, and Prisoners' Friend will be selected from the officers of the Garrison.

With a view to ensure public safety, in case of emergency, seventy-five marines from the gunboat *Zaire* in port were landed last night and quartered in the city barracks.

The officials concerned in the timely averting of an impending danger had an arduous and delicate task to perform during the hours from disclosure of the brewing trouble, 7.30 p.m. yesterday, to the small hours of this morning. On the part of the public there was a remarkable absence of any alarm or sensation; and it must be said to the credit of all that it is the general wish that any existing misunderstandings may soon be removed, so as to allay all apprehensions of future differences.

Macao, 5th January.

THE ATTEMPTED MUTINY.

The mutiny enquiry has been postponed pending further investigations by the proper officials. Thursday, the 2nd inst., was the pay day, and it was then feared that the dormant trouble might burst into activity. The authorities were not, however, to be caught napping. Quietly preparations were planned to put down any disturbance that might manifest itself. The naval authorities' cooperation was called into request, and the gunboat *Zaire* had steam up accordingly in case of any eventualities. Happily, the day passed off without any incident, and things appear now to have resumed the even tenour of their way.

VLADIVOSTOCK.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Vladivostock, 28th December.

AN ENGAGEMENT WITH EX-BOXERS.

Gen. Grodekoff, Governor General of the Amur Province, reports that on the 11th inst., near the Chinese village of Tukhumo, situated 115 versts west of Budune, the Commander of the Transbaikalian Artillery Division, Col. Irman, came upon and dispersed a band of more than 2,000 ex-Boxers, led by Van-Len-Khi. Shortly afterwards, receiving intelligence that the above band had left Tukhumo, taking with them everything that was there of value, and were determined to show resistance from a strengthened position, Col. Irman left his infantry behind and taking with him but a detachment of Cossacks of the 18th Argun Regiment with 2 guns, made a forced march of 125 miles and discovered the enemy near Tukhumo. An attack was made upon the enemy from the direction the latter had the least expected, but the detachment of Cossacks was met by a hot fire from 2 guns and a falconet, with drawn swords and fixed bayonets, the Cossacks made a decisive rush at the enemy and caused them to retreat. The Cossacks also destroyed with a well directed fire from their 2 guns, two citadels and some earthworks the Chinese had constructed of clay, whereupon the Boxer band began to

abandon hastily their protected positions and turned into a disorderly flight. The enemy's losses were heavy. The Russians captured a great number of arms, horses and cattle. Seven of the Cossacks were wounded. The leader of the band fled to the interior of Mongolia. The temperature at the time of the engagement was below 20 deg. Rheumur.

CHANGES IN THE RUSSIAN SQUADRON.

By order from the Naval Department at St. Petersburg, the 2 Russian first class battleships of the Pacific Squadron, the *Navarin* and *Sisoi Veliky*, have sailed for European Russia, and instead of them the battleships *Oslaba* and *Pobieda* will be sent from Kronstadt next year.

PARIS TO PEKING.

The General Agent of the International Sleeping Car Company informed *Amur Journal* (*Pryamurskaya Vedomosty*) that beginning from next May, a through service of luxurious sleeping and other carriages of the Company will be established from Paris to Peking, which are to run twice a week. The fare for the whole distance, including food, etc., will be about £2. The Company also intends to run its carriages to Port Arthur, from where connection will be made with Shanghai by the fast steamers of the Chinese Eastern Railway. It is very probable that in the future, in order to shorten the route to Peking, a line will be built via Kiachta.

CONNECTION WITH PORT ARTHUR.

It is reported here that the second big railroad bridge over the Sungari River will be completed within a month or so, when through traffic will be established between Port Arthur and Vladivostock.

COMFORTS FOR EMIGRANTS.

In order to lessen the hardships of the emigrants while en route to Siberia, the Department of Communications at St. Petersburg has ordered 200 special railway carriages with kitchen accommodation, which are to run exclusively on the Siberian line.

RUSSIAN NOTES.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Vladivostock, 18th December.

FRANCO-RUSSIAN EXPEDITION TO THE FAR EAST.

According to information to hand here, representatives of two scientific societies in Paris will shortly arrive at St. Petersburg for the purpose of perfecting arrangements with the local scientific societies for a joint expedition to the Far East, for exploring little known countries and their inhabitants.

A CHINESE MISSION TO RUSSIA.

The rumours that were circulated by the foreign press to the effect that a special Chinese Mission was to start for Russia, are now being confirmed at St. Petersburg, where it is reported that the mission will arrive there early in February, also that a member of the Chinese Imperial family will be at its head.

A PECULATING OFFICIAL.

The St. Petersburg journal *Rossia* states that the tour of the Russian Vice-Minister for Finance through the different parts of Eastern Siberia and Manchuria was partly in connection with several negligences and misrepresentations made in accounts pertaining to the construction of the railway. The greater part of the documents disappeared during the Chinese troubles of last year while the other property remained untouched, owing to the timely arrival of Russian troops on the line. As an example of the so-called "negligences" in the matter, the Port Arthur newspaper *Novy Krai* gives the following:—"The scandalous affair of the official over the construction of the southern portion of the railway—who is accused of having appropriated by means of fraudulent documents a sum of over 200,000 roubles, from amounts of money allowed him at different times to account for later—is so complicated that it is not likely that matters will be brought into shape by next year, so as to enable the institution of legal proceedings against the accused."

AMERICA AND SIBERIA.

A telegraphic rumour from the United States has been circulated here to the effect that a syndicate has been formed there with a capital of Rs.15,000,000 for the purpose of

acquiring free lands on both sides of the Trans-Siberian Railway.

PENAL LABOUR IN SAGHALIEN.

A special commission has been appointed in the General Prison Department at St. Petersburg, for revising the present system of punishment at the Saghalien prison mines.

A STOCK EXCHANGE FOR VLADIVOSTOCK.

The Governor-General of the Amur District, presented some time ago a petition to the Minister of Finance, for establishing a Stock Exchange at Vladivostock. The Department of Finance fully acknowledging the necessity for such an institution here, presented this matter together with its opinion on the same, to the Ministerial committee for a final decision. According to private reports to hand, a favourable decision is imminent.

WEIHAIWEI.

Weihaiwei, 27th December.

IMPROVEMENTS.

It will interest you to learn what has been done in this colony during the past year in the way of improvements that increase its value as a summer health-resort, and that generally speaking render it a more desirable place of residence for foreigners. It must be confessed—even by the most ardent admirer of the Chinese nation—that, however much they may excel Westerners in certain points, they have much to learn from the outer barbarians in the way of improved means of communication. Their roads—if "roads" they may be called—are execrable, their canals are nearly as bad. There was no object during the Japanese occupation in their spending money on the captured naval base, since their tenure was to be a temporary one. The British therefore found here virgin soil, and although, for several reasons, the development of the Territory has been slow and spasmodic in character, during the past three years, and especially in the one now drawing to its close, considerable progress has to be recorded. Roughly speaking, the amount of money paid to contractors for work undertaken this year is \$46,000, though probably this covers work yet to be finished, which has been interrupted by the unusually early frosts.

ROADS.

Whether we shall ever have railway communication between Chefoo and Weihaiwei is a moot point. Failing this, it is much to be desired that a good highway be constructed between the two ports. In his official report to the Colonial Office on the new British acquisition, Sir Frank Swettenham gave it as his opinion that the Chinese officials will resist rather than encourage the construction of such a road, on the ground that it might divert trade from Chefoo. This does not appear reasonable, for geographically the Treaty Port occupies a better position in respect to the trade of Shantung. In addition to this, the British Government appears to have signed a treaty with Germany of the nature of a "self-denying ordinance." The mandarins have, on the other hand, real reason to fear the Germans, for Tsingtao is in an even more favourable situation than Chefoo as regards the central, populous districts of the province, and their railroad is being pushed into the interior with great rapidity.

However, the authorities here have begun the road, and will carry it to the boundary. It remains to be seen whether the native officials will continue it—or allow it to be continued—in Chinese territory. When completed it will be about 14 miles in length. Beginning at Mahto, it runs direct to the city, and skirting the northern wall passes westward. The portion constructed, or nearly finished, ends at a group of small villages near the piece of water known locally as the Third Lagoon, and is eight miles long. There are connecting roads to the eastern and western gates of the city, which might be regarded as the main highway if the native officials would put the streets within the wall in good repair.

To foreign residents, perhaps, the most important of the new roads is that running from Mahto to Half Moon Bay in the one direction—about three miles,—and the other round Narciassus Bay, past Flagstaff Camp, towards villages to the south of the Harbour. The former in climbing the hill behind Queen's Hotel has for 200 yards a rather steep gradient

of 1 in 17. Nowhere else is the gradient greater than 1 in 20. Leaving the Hotel, it follows the shore, round the outside edge of two ruined forts, and past an old iron pier, where, prior to the Japanese war, the Chinese are said to have had a torpedo station. It here turns to the north, traverses a large fishing and agricultural village, and ends at the new bungalows of the Weihaiwei Land and Building Company. Besides providing the natives with a ready means of bringing their produce to market, this road very considerably increases the value of the Company's property.

The third highway, mentioned above, will when completed be the longest. It is intended ultimately to reach Tsamaotsun, a distance of 17 miles from Mahto. The portion under construction is 8 miles in length, and stops at a village named Haopu. The road is comparatively flat; it passes between the city and the Parade Ground of the 1st Chinese Regiment, and to the rear of the four foreign bungalows on Narcissus Bay.

In all, some dozens of culverts and small bridges have been made. Perhaps the finest piece of bridge-work is that at Nanchutao—to the south of Flagstaff Hill—undertaken by a local contractor.

As there is no wheeled traffic in the district, Macadam's teachings may safely be ignored. In decomposed granite, easily obtained locally at small cost, the constructor has capital material for surfacing his roadways.

MULE-TRACKS.

Two important tracks, broad enough for laden animals to pass one another, have been finished this autumn. They are not only narrower, but, of course, steeper than the main highways described above, the gradient being 1 in 10. One, connecting Mahto with villages to the north near Waterwitch Bay, is 3 miles in length and reaches a height of about 600 feet above sea-level. It crosses the range of steep hills to the north of the Bay, containing some peaks nearly 1,000 feet high. The other track links together two important villages south of the Bay—Laobatsze and Baohuko—and climbs a difficult pass between them at a height of about 400 feet.

THE NEW BUND.

The sea-front of Mahto has been considerably improved by the completion of the Bund. It was at first thought that the wall could be formed by merely placing heavy blocks of stone in rows one above another, and without the use of cement or mortar. It has now been found that this is not sufficient, as the soil would gradually be washed out between the stones and the roadway above be undermined. Next year this defect is to be remedied by a plentiful use of mortar. In all, the sum spent on the Bund this year totals about \$5,000.

THE JETTY.

At the western extremity of the Bund is a stone jetty, built largely of granite blocks. It had fallen into disrepair during the Japanese occupation, and last year as much as \$1,500 had been spent on it. This summer the pier has been increased in length by 25 yards, giving a mean depth at low water of 6 feet. Heavy blocks of granite, imported from Shiktau, have been freely built into this addition. With the quantities of cement used and the heavy timber piles on the outside linked together with iron rods, the new portion of the jetty appears substantial and well-constructed. The cost has been about \$4,000.

SUPERVISION.

The public works have been carried out with funds provided by the Colonial Office, and by local contractors under the efficient oversight of the company of Royal Engineers stationed here. Major R. P. Lee, R.E., has had charge of all construction on the Mainland. The contractors, it is plain, have not been permitted to scamp their work, which appears to have been carefully supervised, and, as regards thoroughness, is in keeping with the best traditions of British engineering skill. It need hardly be added that these roads, the Bund, and the lengthened jetty, have added considerably to the value of the port as a place of residence.—*N.-C. Daily News.*

A telegram from Dr. Sven Hedin, the Central Asian explorer, confirms his arrival at Leh. Dr. Hedin will visit Calcutta some time in January.

NORTHERN NOTES.

The following items are from the *P. & T. Times* of the 28th ult.:—

Monday last witnessed the third fall of snow for the season.

Our last wire from Taku is dated Thursday, December 26th. "Plenty of ice in river, but not yet closed. No steamers here to-day, as the *Poochi* has gone outside. Abundance of cargo on the wharves."

The British and French military authorities are thinking of stopping their subsidies to the Gas Company; if this be done it is feared that the gas illumination of the streets will cease. Strong efforts are being made to postpone all action in the matter till March.

The Masons are to give a ball on 21st January. The "craft" is following its own former example in the comprehensiveness of the invitation list. If we may judge by former experience, it will be a great social event. Early notice is given in the hope that guests will not make other engagements.

The "Ewo" ship *Lien-sheng*, after coming in and discharging all her inward cargo, managed to get ashore on the South Bank while going out on Christmas Day. She is still there; there are no lights, no marks, and no pilots are available. With her departure Messrs. Jardine finish their season.

The river has shown its usual eccentricities in the process of freezing. Last Saturday it was as rigid as iron down at the Russian bridge, but at the Hongkong Bank it was quite open. Sometimes the astuteness of the ferrymen is a factor in the case; these men, to maintain their livelihood, make a couple of alleyways across at a distance of a hundred yards and then break up the section of ice between them, getting rid of the small floes by pushing them under the frozen part.

We hear great complaints among the servants at a rise of prices in the provision markets. We have made inquiries, but have not been able to discover adequate cause in the state of "supply," so we can only suspect that it is, due to the usual occult trick at which the Chinese retailer is such an adept. Vast quantities of rice have come up recently, and the flour market has been depressed all the autumn, so that these two staples ought not to be as high as last winter.

A piece of Municipal land was feued on Monday last at the usual price of Tls. 15 per *mow* in perpetuity; the feuer paid the sum of Tls. 1050 per *mow* as premium or entrance fee. Capitalising the lien of Tls. 15, at five per cent. as Tls. 300, this implies that freehold land at the far end of Meadows Road is at present worth Tls. 1350 per *mow*. We recollect that ten years ago a resident bought an adjoining lot at fifteen Taels per *mow* in order to get "filling" for a piece nearer the old Concession.

Captain Kühne, who commanded the men of the *Ilis* landing party in Tientsin in June 1900, in his own name and that of his brother officers, has presented the Club Concordia with a very handsome picture of His Majesty the Emperor William. The occasion of hanging the picture on Christmas Day was made a patriotic demonstration. The picture is accompanied by a most gratifying *testamur* on the part of the donors to the kind treatment they all experienced from their countrymen and countrywomen during the trying days of the Siege. The German volunteers also get a tribute of well-deserved eulogy.

A vernacular paper says:—We hear that early this week another band of well-armed brigands was attacked and pursued in a direction up the Grand Canal where they fought it out with the foreign police (Italians, we think). The house in which they took refuge was fired, and as the thieves issued they were shot. They had every species of firearm including a Webley revolver and a lot of new pattern Mannlichers, as well as old-nark Mausers.

Northern native papers state that H. E. Chou Fu, Provincial Treasurer of Chihli, proposes to establish a medical hospital at Paotingfu for charitable purposes, with Dr. Mark as Superintendent. Dr. Mark, who is of *taotai* rank, will be remembered in this part of China, where he has many friends. He was secretary and doctor to the late Li Huang-chang.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

MISSIONARIES AND LOOTING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

5th January.

SIR,—In justice to the Catholic missionaries of Peking, will you kindly publish the following brief and simple narrative, which I happen to have from the pen of Bishop Favier himself. It is taken from a statement made by the Bishop, with regard to charges brought against him of having "looted" a valuable collection which has subsequently found its way into an American museum. It is a plain, simple statement, as of one who has nothing to conceal nor regret in his conduct. As the accusations against the French missionaries come now from their own countrymen, we might leave them to defend themselves; but since the charges find publication in English papers as well, it is but fair that the other side should be heard in the same language. I translate from a letter of the Bishop, dated Peking, 1st November, 1901.

"On Aug. 16th, 1900, at 8 o'clock in the morning, the Allies came to deliver my residence at the Peitang. The Boxers and the irregular troops opposed an energetic resistance. They fought for three hours, and everything was on fire: I counted as many as eighteen fires around us. The good people fled, abandoning their houses, their shops and stores. One could not have bought a pound of bread for a thousand dollars: there was no lack of provisions, but there was no one left to sell. The 6,000 Christians who had suffered at Peking a siege and a fast of sixty days had no shelter, clothes or food: they had seen 1,560 of their relatives massacred by the Boxers, and more than 400 had died of suffering in the siege of the Peitang. I could not devote to a death of starvation all this population, which had just been saved by the Allies. I therefore authorised the taking of what was absolutely necessary, giving notice to my Minister that whatever should come from the stores of the government would be deducted from the indemnity to be paid, and that whatever should come from private shops and houses would be scrupulously noted, to be paid for later to the proprietors, when they should return. This was done: the value of articles coming from the government was deducted from the indemnity, and private individuals were all indemnified. I had a notice put up on the walls of the principal street, that all private individuals, who might have any claim to make, could come to see me; all that came were paid immediately."

After explaining the particular case of the collection, the Bishop concludes: "I have stated exactly what took place. If anyone should not take the word of an old Bishop of forty years in China, I can send the attestations of those whom I indemnified. These good pagans in their gratitude have offered me inscription of honour and addresses of thanksgiving, some of which were signed by more than 400 persons. We have never had the least trouble with the good people of Peking, for they know very well that I protect Christians and pagans alike. Our good reputation has attracted a great many: since the siege we have baptized more than 1,400 adults, and more than 4,000 have given in their names to become Christians. I am persuaded then that these accusations proceed from the lack of exact information. I shall at any rate keep my esteem for those who have made the accusations, as they have been deceived, not deceivers."

This was written, it will be noticed, before the publication of Gen. Voyron's report. It must be particularly painful to the good Bishop to see his conduct misrepresented by his own countrymen. It may be noted in conclusion that the Bishop explaining his own conduct practically explains that of his missionaries, as in Catholic missions little passes without the knowledge and consent of the Bishop.—Yours, etc.,

CATHOLIC.

THE DAIRY FARM CO., LD.

An extraordinary general meeting of this Company was held in the office, 2, Albert Road, at four o'clock on Friday afternoon, for the purpose of confirming the resolution passed at the meeting held on the 18th ult. Captain Tillett (chairman) presided, and there were also present Messrs. F. Maitland (director), J. Walker (manager), J. M. Machado, Ling Wong, and R. P. Moffitt (secretary).

The notice convening the meeting having been read by the SECRETARY,

The CHAIRMAN, before putting the resolution to the vote, said he should be pleased to answer any questions.

No questions were asked, and the resolution was read. It was as follows:—"That the figures in Article No. 10, Clause 15, of the Articles of Association of the Company, be altered to read \$1,500 (Fifteen hundred dollars)."

Mr. MACHADO moved that the resolution be confirmed, and the motion, which was seconded by Mr. WALKER, was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business before the meeting, gentlemen. Thank you for your attendance.

CHINA PROVIDENT LOAN AND MORTGAGE CO., LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the fifth ordinary general meeting to be held at the office of the General Managers on Wednesday, 15th January, at 12 o'clock noon:—

The gross earnings for the past year amount to \$87,941.32 and after deducting all expenses, remuneration to General Managers, Consulting Committee's and Auditors' fees, there remains a balance of \$70,045.58, which it is recommended be appropriated as follows, viz:—

To place to reserve fund	\$10,000.00
To pay a dividend of 8 per cent.	57,760.00
To carry forward to the credit of next year's account	2,285.58

CONSULTING COMMITTEE.

Owing to Mr. Lewis having left the Colony Mr. H. P. White was invited to join the Committee. In accordance with the Articles of Association, Messrs. J. S. Van Buren, Chow Hing Kee, Chau Tung Shang and H. P. White retire, but offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by Messrs. F. Henderson and W. H. Potts, who are recommended for re-election.

SHEWAN, TOMES, & Co.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 7th January, 1902.

PROFIT AND LOSS.

Charges	\$ 5,571.30
Consulting Committee's fees	4,000.00
Auditors' fee	200.00
Depreciation for 1901	250.00
Balance	70,045.58
	\$30,066.88

Balance	\$ 672.64
Interest on mortgages, loans, &c.	\$87,941.32
Less interest paid, commissions, &c., &c.	8,547.08
	79,394.24
	\$80,066.88

BALANCE-SHEET.

LIABILITIES.	
Capital 12,200 shares at \$20 (\$10 paid-up)	\$222,000.00
Reserve fund	35,000.00
6 per cent. debentures	13,600.00
Sundry creditors	6,602.00
Due to General Managers	3,397.07
Balance of profit and loss	70,045.58
	\$850,644.65

ASSETS.

Loans—Provident loans	\$451,111.94
Loans on mortgage, shares, &c., &c.	366,110.94
	\$817,222.88
Furniture, as per last statement	1,000.00
Less depreciation	250.00
	750.00
Sundry debtors	4,139.53
Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation	27,136.73
Cash	1,395.51
	\$850,644.65

SUPREME COURT.

Friday, 10th January.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR T. SERCOMBE SMITH
(ACTING PUISNE JUDGE).

KWOK KAM CHUN v. COMPAGNIE DES
MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

In this case the plaintiff as owner of the fishing junk *Cheung Kam Lee*, license number 543, claims from the defendants as owners of the steamship *Indus* the sum of \$1,457.64 damages alleged to have been caused to the said junk by a collision which occurred between the steamship *Indus* and the junk off Hong Hai Bay in the China Sea on Sunday, 22nd September, 1901. The plaintiff in order to bring the claim within the jurisdiction of the Summary Court waived \$457.64 of the amount of his claim, thereby reducing it to \$1,000. He also claims damages.

Mr. Morgan Phillips, barrister-at-law, appeared for the plaintiff, instructed by Mr. John Hays of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes & Master, solicitors; and defendants were represented by Mr. John Hastings, solicitor.

The pleadings were put in and held as read. The defendants in their answers denied all knowledge of the collision, and stated further that the *Indus* left Shanghai on 19th September last and arrived in Hongkong at 8 a.m. on the 22nd, not having been in collision with the plaintiff's or any other Chinese boat. They entirely denied plaintiff's allegation that the *Indus* collided with the plaintiff's junk as alleged.

Mr. Morgan Phillips, in opening the case, stated that the claim was for damages to plaintiff's junk caused by a collision with the defendants, steamship *Indus* on the morning of 22nd September last. The plaintiff was the owner of at least two fishing junks, belonging to the port of Hongkong, which usually lay at Taikoktsui when not on the fishing ground. On the night of 1st September last his two fishing junks, the *Cheung Kam Lee*—the one subsequently injured—and her consort, the *Cheung Lee Chan* left the inlet at Tai Sami, which is about 75 miles along the coast in an easterly direction. This is the headquarters of the fishing grounds which lie about the small island of Pedro Blanco. The weather was fine. There was a light easterly breeze and a calm sea and they sailed in a southerly direction towards the island of Pedro Blanco. At about 3-30 in the morning of the 22nd—somewhere between that and 1 o'clock—the helmsman of the junk *Cheung Kam Lee* saw approaching the white masthead light of a steamer. He called the attention of the other members of the crew to the light which was approaching them. It was a steamship coming from an easterly direction and going to Hongkong. His (Mr. Phillips's) instructions were, and he thought the evidence would bear it out, that at this time the junk was somewhere near—a few miles away from—the island of Pedro Blanco and inside that island somewhat, on the coast side, probably a little to the westward of it. The people on the junk first saw the white light of the steamer and afterwards the green light. Attention was called to it, but it was thought the steamship would avoid them, seeing that the junk was on the port tack and kept to her course. However, the steamer did not attempt to avoid them, but came straight on and there was a violent collision. The steamship ran into the junk's port side and completely cut off the bow, somewhere near the foremast. The severed part sank. Fortunately the other part held sound in some way: there was a water-tight compartment, he thought; so no lives were lost. The people on the junk called out to those on the steamer for assistance; the steamer did not stop, however, but went on her way to Hongkong. There were three or four members of the crew and the master asleep below at the time. Just before the collision occurred the master was aroused and came on deck. Witnesses on the junk and witnesses on the consort junk, which was quite near her at the time, would tell the Court that the steamship which came into collision with them was a large mail steamer with a white hull, two black funnels, and, he believed, two masts. The damaged junk was towed by her consort, the other junk, to Hongkong and arrived here on the morning of 23rd September. As soon as they arrived here, the

plaintiff came over from Kowloon and at once instructed his lawyers. He subsequently went to the Harbour and there saw the steamship *Indus* which had arrived on the morning before at 8 o'clock. He went round her in a sampan and would tell the Court that he saw marks on her bows, the white paint having been very much scratched and removed, giving indications to him that she had been in collision with something. Captain Douglas, marine surveyor, would be called to give evidence. He had an experience of 16 or 17 years upon this coast as master and officer of steamships. He knew the southern coast intimately, having sailed backwards and forwards some 500 times; and he had heard the statements of the crew and had come to the conclusion, from the strength of the wind and the course they were sailing, that they were in the position which had been indicated to his Lordship. (The position referred to had been marked on a chart and handed up to the Bench). That was some 60 miles from Hongkong. Captain Douglas knew the French mail steamers well and would tell the Court that during the south-west monsoon, which was prevailing at that time, September, the French steamers nearly always kept a course inside Pedro Blanco. He would also state that these French steamers were the only steamers in this part of the world with white hulls and two black funnels, and that as the *Indus* arrived here at 8 o'clock on the morning of the 22nd, she would, at her normal pace of something like 13 knots, have been just in the place which the plaintiffs stated that the collision occurred. Of course, the people on the junk did not see the name of the steamer, and being Chinese, would not have known it even if they had. But they all said she had a white hull and two black funnels. One witness would speak to the shape of her bows, which were peculiarly straight. So that, it seemed to him, there was the strongest substantial evidence that it was this steamer *Indus* which came into collision with the junk. The plaintiff held that the collision was caused by the negligence of the *Indus*; she did not keep out of the way of the junk. She did not stop her engines or slacken her speed when approaching the junk. He should have stated that the junk had the usual light exhibited by fishing junks—a bright light suspended from a pole about six feet above the stern; and the Court would be told that that light was seen, by those who had charge of the junk, to be burning brightly just before the collision happened. It seemed to him that if those witnesses gave their evidence according to the instructions which he had received, coupled with the evidence of Captain Douglas, there was the strongest circumstantial evidence that the ship which caused the damage was the *Indus*; and he would ask his Lordship to say that she was to blame and was liable to the plaintiff in the amount of damages which was claimed.

Evidence was then led.

Kwok Kam Chun, the plaintiff, deposed that on the morning in question he heard a disturbance and went on deck. He then saw approaching them a white steamer with two masts and two black funnels, and blunt bows. She was a large steamer and from her appearance he knew her to be a mail steamer. The collision took place shortly after he came on deck. The result of it was that the bow of the junk was cut through and the severed forward part sank. They on the junk cried out to those on the steamer to "save life" and made a great noise to attract their attention, but the steamer did not stop. He saw a white light and a green light on the steamer. On coming back to Hongkong he identified the steamer and had the junk repaired.

Cross-examined—When he came on deck as described it was dark, but there were some stars. There were some clouds but no rain then or thereon. After the collision he went into the main-hold and looked at the clock. It was then 3.30. When he came on deck the bows of the steamer were right over the top of them. She dashed into them and went straight on without slackening her speed. As a result of the collision the foremast fell. He did not run aft when he saw the collision about to take place; he remained on the main hatch. The look-out man ran aft.

After further evidence, the case was adjourned.

'CHANGE DOINGS.**A REVIEW OF 1901.**

A fateful year, and fateful withal,
Awhile with anxiety muchly fraught,
But this for faithful truth I say,
Nor bear nor bull hath fail'd of aught.

It is satisfactory to note that the last settlement of the year not only passed off without the least sign of trouble which was predicted of it by a few pessimists, but has in fact brought about an improvement in rates entirely unexpected.

This is undoubtedly due (if not wholly, partly at least) to the firm stand made by the bank and file of the Rialto, who hung grimly to their holdings and would not part. How long they will be able to hold out, and how far their expectations of an early rise in prices will be realised remains to be seen.

In the meantime the market has certainly assumed a livelier and firmer tone, a healthy feature of which is that the greater portion of the business now doing is for cash. During the month, however, business was limited in the extreme, while in the way of fluctuations, nothing occurred worth mentioning, such leading stocks as Banks, Docks, Sugars, Lands, Steamboats, and Indos remaining as last quoted.

The last-named, however, dropped to \$143, but recovered again towards the settlement, and now stands at \$141 ex the dividend of \$1.30.

China and Manilas.—To the bulk of share holders, the notice issued by the General Managers convening a meeting for the purpose of passing a resolution to increase the capital of the company from one million (to which it had recently been increased) to one million and a half dollars, came as a complete and disagreeable surprise, the immediate effect of which was a drop in the price of the shares from \$62½ to \$59, at which they now stand. When it is remembered that the final call on the last new issue has barely been paid yet, the expression of astonishment on the part of shareholders, at this further and sudden call on them would seem to be justified. True, subscription to this new issue is optional and not compulsory, but the option is only apparent, since, in the event of the issue not being taken up, shareholders must be prepared to see it offered on the market *at par*, which virtually means a prospective shrinkage in the value of their present holdings of fifteen per cent., a contingency they can hardly suffer to arise.

As to the larger question, whether, and how far, it is wise to effect such an enormous and permanent increase of capital (five-fold within a period of eighteen months) of what is, after all, only a small coasting steamship company, the future alone will show. The assurance of the Chairman that for the present no anxiety need be felt as to any opposition, is no doubt, satisfactory as far as it goes, but I must confess that, as a shareholder, the prospect of a heavy capital to feed, while the possibility of an opposition exists, makes me doubt the wisdom of this further increase.

Douglases.—These continue a drag on the market. A sale of one lot at \$44 has been reported, but the rate is now \$46.

Hongkong Hotels.—Changed hands over the settlement at \$135, but rallied again afterwards, closing strong at \$137.

Humphreys Estates.—Are being steadily picked off the market at the uniform price of \$14. Latterly, a slightly higher rate would probably be paid if shares were forthcoming.

Cements.—Are on the market in large lots at \$21½, but find no buyers.

Mining.—Under this head, the same old doleful tale of "nothing doing" may be repeated. Punjoms, however, being the only exception, which, after suffering a slight fall, are now wanted at \$4.90.

To pass from the monthly to the yearly 'Doings,' it must be acknowledged that, on the whole, business during the past twelve months has been of a most fitful character. For Rialto purposes the year may fairly be divided into two distinct periods, the period of activity and booms, and the period of slumps and depression. Under the former category the first six months were undoubtedly marked by a liveliness of market and a steady advance in prices, which were quite phenomenal. The first indication of an advance showed itself in the month of January, when Docks and Indos made

quite a spurt. In the same month also the money tightness, under which the market had been labouring for a considerable time, became much easier, allowing of financial facilities to be obtained on more reasonable terms.

Coming on to February it seems that in spite of the intervening Chinese New Year and the Races, there was a further increase in the volume of business, while following in the wake of Docks and Indos, in both of which a further advance had taken place, other stocks began to show up, the most prominent being Banks and Sugars. During March, while the financial situation had become distinctly easier, a good deal of anxiety prevailed as to how the settlement, which was unduly heavy, would run, but it passed off without any untoward incident. When it was seen that even such an abnormally heavy settlement could be arranged without producing an adverse effect on the Rialto, it became clearly evident that the market had more stability in it than had been supposed.

The following month brought about the most intense excitement of the year. Dock Shares, which had up till then been steadily rising on an average of about ten points monthly, and which were now sub-divided into small scrips, began running an upward course at a pace which fairly took the breath out of the Rialto. It was as if a mighty whirlwind had suddenly struck the market, carrying everything and everybody in its train. Such a scene of wild excitement has seldom been seen in Hongkong, except perhaps in that mania, of doubtful memory, of '88 and '89. The wise operator and the unwise, the operator with commonsense and the operator without, the overcautious and the rash, the sedate and the easily excitable, all, all, were in the mad scramble for Docks. Strange to say that, through it all, the one man who kept out of the excitement, and who it would be supposed would be the last to be out of the fun, was "Napoleon" himself. While all this was going on, other shares had not remained idle, Banks and Indos having in the meantime taken a further spurt, but the all-absorbing Dock excitement had overshadowed everything else. So far, however, prices had not gone beyond their proper and legitimate level, and had they been allowed to remain at that normal point, everything might have gone all right, and the Rialto would have been spared the serious fall in prices and that very acute depression which subsequently followed. But when excitement is running so high, rash and weak speculators are bound to "chip in," and, in the present case, they would not be denied. It was perhaps not entirely their own fault. Led to believe that there was still some money to be made, particularly in Docks, they entered into large forward engagements, and, for a time, succeeded in giving the market a fictitious tone. Their disillusion was swift and sudden, for in the very first month (July) in which a portion of these contracts fell due, they had to pay an average loss of about thirty points, which was closely followed by a further and equally heavy fall, but more damaging in its effects than the first, in August. From that shock, the market has since then shown a continuation of depression and dullness almost painful in its monotony, and lasting without a break down to the present time. For the past two weeks, however, things appear to be resuming their normal tone, and, in view of the fact that money keeps abundant, in spite of the Chinese New Year now fast approaching, an all-round improvement seems fairly assured.

During the year, three new companies, with a total of a little over two millions, were successfully put on the market. One of these is a small local concern, carrying on the business of what our American friends would call a "dry goods store," and appears to be doing fairly well. The other two, with a capital of a round million each, have their headquarters at Manila, and are reported to be a little "under the weather," temporarily it is hoped.

N.B.—Telegraphic information has just reached here, reporting Bank shares in London to have gone up to £65, and, in sympathy with that our local rate has jumped up to \$637½ cash.

ESA.

Hongkong, 8th January.

Two companies of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers have in the New Territory for practice in tactical work last week.

CRICKET.

H.K.C.C. V. GARRISON.

On a wicket which was all in favour of the batsmen, this match began on New Year's Day, the Garrison sending in Fanshawe and Rotherham, both of whom were in a hitting vein. Rotherham was the first to go, being well taken at mid-on by Hay for a bright 18. To him succeeded the R.W.F. crack, France Hayhurst, who started quietly. Chiefly by means of Fanshawe's clean hitting, the score was taken to 88, when the R.A. was neatly taken in the slips by Mackenzie for a lively contribution of 62. France-Hayhurst, when apparently well settled for a long stay, attempted to hit but failed to get hold of the ball and was excellently caught in the long field by Ward, whose fielding at third man was also all that could be desired. Krickenbeck played steady cricket and was hard to shift until a fine ball from Franklin at length broke from the off through his defence. When Clapham and Preedy got together runs began to come more freely, but the former failing to get hold of one from Franklin was easily held b. Hay at mid-on. The fast bowler was not out with a creditable 22, when the innings closed for 223.

The Club fielding was maintained at a fair average, Mackenzie's second catch at slip being noteworthy and Brown at cover doing good honest work. Goldring shaped well behind the wickets, and Wood at mid-off saved many a run.

At 3.15 Franklin and Smith went in to tackle the Garrison total and so successful were their efforts that in an hour and a half they had scored 175 and were both not out, Franklin having just reached 100, and Smith having 65 to his credit. Both men were missed by the wicket-keeper, who, luckily for the batsmen was not Beresford-Ash. On starting next morning, duty prevented Franklin from resuming his innings, to which there might have been no end on the easy pitch had he continued to bat with the same care, vigour and finish which characterised his batting on the first day. So Mackenzie partnered Smith and took the score by hard hitting to 222 before being well caught at square leg by a ground coolie. The next six wickets were responsible for only 19 runs between them and at 12.45 no one was ready to go in and join Smith, who was now 98. Thanks, however, to the courtesy of the Garrison captain, tiffin was taken a quarter of an hour earlier, while couriers were sent in search of Hay. At half past one, the innings resumed, Hay surviving the last ball of Preedy's destructive over, thus giving Smith a chance, of which he availed himself, to reach the coveted century. Having attained this object, Smith began to hit out, making 58 out of the 79 runs put on by the last wicket. Hay continued to bat steadily and strongly till a curler from the Barracks end hit his wicket. The captain must be grateful to him for so ably playing the leading part in "Cool as a cucumber." Smith was heartily congratulated on the longest and best innings played by him for the Club, who owe to him and Franklin, for their batting and bowling, the present victory over the Garrison. Preedy and France-Hayhurst bore the brunt of the bowling, the latter's slow leg-breaks puzzling more than one batsman. For reasons which were not divulged, Beresford Ash, who captained his side, did not keep wicket, thereby, in our judgment, considerably crippling his side. Preedy's fast bowling was much too good for the less experienced batsmen opposed to him. With two hours left for play, the Garrison started a second innings. Fanshawe again batted briskly until he was well stumped by Hay. France-Hayhurst was miserably run out, though credit must be given to cover and wicket-keep for their smart co-operation in the tragedy. When Cadogan arrived on the scene, there was no doubt as to his intentions, for he began his career with a 6 off MacKenzie and continued to score fast and freely. Despite some luck, his innings of 79 was as meritorious as it was popular. Later on, Edmondson played spiritedly for 25 not out, but the other batsmen could make but little stand against MacKenzie's admirable bowling. At the call of time, the second venture of the Garrison had realized 199 runs for 9 wickets, which might have been less had not the club been handicapped by the absence of two bowlers. The result was

a win for the Club, in the first innings, by 114 runs.

Appended are the score and analysis:

GARRISON.

First Innings.

Lt. Fanshawe, R.N., c Mackenzie, b S. Smith	62
Capt. Rotherham, c Hay, b Mackenzie	18
Capt. France-Hayhurst, c Ward, b S. Smith	22
Capt. Cadogan, b Mackenzie	11
Major Beresford-Ash, lbw, b S. Smith	9
Lt. Kriekenbeck, b Franklin	37
Capt. Clapham, c Hay, b Franklin	21
Pte. Preedy, not out	22
Lieut. Edmondson, c Ward, b Franklin	1
Lieut. Cowie, b Reinold	8
Major Dorehill, c Mackenzie, b S. Smith	6
Extras	6

Total 223

Second Innings.

Lt. Fanshawe, st Hay, b S. Smith	33
Capt. Rotherham, b S. Smith	3
Capt. France-Hayhurst, run out	0
Capt. Cadogan, c Hooper, b Mackenzie	79
Major Beresford-Ash	—
Lt. Kriekenbeck, c and b Mackenzie	9
Capt. Clapham, b Dixon	14
Private Preedy, b Mackenzie	8
Lieut. Edmondson, not out	25
Lieut. Cowie, b Mackenzie	9
Major Dorehill, b Mackenzie	10
Extras	8

Total (for 9 wickets) 199

THE CLUB.

First Innings.

C. P. Franklin, R.N., retired	100
T. Sercombe Smith, not out	156
A. Mackenzie, c sub. b Hayhurst	30
Lt. Wood, R.N., b Preedy	4
A. G. Ward, c Beresford-Ash, b Hayhurst	4
J. Hooper, c Beresford-Ash, b Hayhurst	9
W. E. Dixon, b Preedy	2
J. Brown, b Preedy	0
P. W. Goldring, b Preedy	0
C. H. P. Hay, b France-Hayhurst	18
H. A. Reinold	—
Extras	14

Total 337

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

ARMY.

	O.	M.	R.	W.		O.	M.	R.	W.
Sercombe Smith	22	3	80	4	13	—	84	2	
Mackenzie	23	7	88	2	18	4	76	5	
Reinold	8	2	28	1	—	—	—	—	
Franklin	6	2	22	3	—	—	—	—	
Dixon	—	—	—	—	6.3	—	31	1	

THE CLUB.

First Innings.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Hayhurst	33	4	116	4
Preedy	30	4	119	4
Dorehill	12	1	62	—
Edmondson	2	—	22	—

H.K.C.C. V. NAVY.

This match on the 4th inst. was won in sensational style by the Navy with 5 wickets in hand, Moore treating the unrepresentative bowling talent of the Club without ceremony, while Pringle made 22 in six hits only. For the beaten side France-Hayhurst played another big innings. Slight discrepancies exist in the batting and bowling figures, the latter being apparently inaccurately kept. Scores and analysis:—

H.K.C.C.

Capt. Kriekenbeck, c Digby, b Mahon	0
Lt. Fanshawe, R.A., run out	3
Lt. France-Hayhurst, c Moore, b Noble	117
Capt. Cadogan, R.W.F., c Pringle, b Mahon	16
A. G. Ward, b McKinley	21
J. Hooper, c Pringle, b Noble	47
W. Dixon, b McKinley	0
Capt. H. Rotherham, R.W.F., c and b McKinley	0
C. H. P. Hay, b McKinley	5
Capt. Clapham, R.A., b Mahon	17
G. Grimble, not out	5
Extras	22

Total 253

NAVY.

Mr. Digby, st. Hay, b Hayhurst	6
Mr. Cornabe, c Grimble, b Fanshawe	41
Mr. Moore, c Kriekenbeck, b Hayhurst	140
Lieut. Wood, b Hayhurst	28
Lieut. Reinold, run out	7
Lieut. Mahon, not out	18
Pringle, not out	22
Extras	4

Total (for 5 wickets) 266

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

H.K.C.C.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Mahon	16.3	4	44	3
Broadbent	9	1	33	—
McKinley	21	5	74	4
Reinold	7	1	29	—
Noble	7	—	54	2

NAVY.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
France-Hayhurst	12	—	74	3
Dixon	13	1	63	—
Fanshawe	7	6	55	1
Kriekenbeck	4	—	22	—
Grimble	4	—	30	—
Clapham	2	—	21	—

NAVAL YARD C.C. V. CRAIGENGOWER C.C.

A cricket match was played at the Happy Valley on the 4th inst. between the Royal Yard C.C. and the Craigengower C.C., and resulted in an easy win for the latter by 4 wickets and 34 runs. The following are the scores:—

NAVAL YARD C.C.

C. Ormsby, b Lammert	3
W. Brand, c M. S. Asger, b Harteam	2
E. Makoveyeff, b Harteam	2
P. Gladwell, not out	35
H. J. Cock, c Witchell, b Lammert	5
F. Jolly, c and b Lammert	0
P. O. Apur, c Rose, b Lammert	0
E. Cole, c Lammert, b Rapp	8
W. Andrews, b Rapp	0
C. Doughton, c Harteam, b Stuart	2
G. Ruby, c and b Stuart	10
Extras	1

Total 68

CRAIGENGOWER C.C.

J. P. Jordan, b Ormsby	5
J. L. Stuart, b Ormsby	4
F. Kapp, b Gladwell	5
L. E. Lammert, c Cole, b Ruby	28
J. H. Ruttonjee, lbw, b Gladwell	9
M. E. Asger, not out	14
A. E. Asger, c Gladwell, b Ruby	1
L. A. Rose, not out	10
R. Witchell, } did not bat	
E. Ford, }	
H. Harteam, }	
Extras	16

Total (for 6 wickets) 102

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

NAVAL YARD C.C.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Lammert	8	1	27	4
Harteam	9	—	25	2
Rapp	2	—	6	2
Stuart	2	—	10	2

CRAIGENGOWER C.C.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Spur	3	—	11	—
Ormsby	7	—	38	2
Gladwell	9	—	23	2
Ruby	7	—	25	2

Spur bowled 4 wides and Ormsby 3.

PARSEE C.C. V. ROYAL ENGINEERS' C.C.

This match was played on the R.E. ground on the 4th inst. and ended in a draw in favour of the Parsees. Scores:—

PARSEE C.C.

S. H. Commissariat, c Tillman, b Meader	38
R. B. Cooper, b Watts	1
R. Pestonji, b Watts	7
M. J. Doctor, c Yeats, b Meader	1
B. K. Mehta, b Tillman	0
H. Patel, b Tillman	9
D. R. captain, b Meader	1
B. D. Tata, c Carice, b Turner	26
J. M. Master, c Lillywhite, b Meader	9
B. P. Tavaria, c Meader, b Turner	3
C. Movrawala, not out	7
Extras	5

Total 107

ROYAL ENGINEERS.

Yeates, b Doctor	0
Woods, c Doctor, b Tavaria	4
Lillywhite, b Doctor	1
Turner, b Doctor	0
Carice, b Doctor	10
Tillman, b Pestonji	20
Palmer, c Tavaria, b Doctor	19
Watts, c Tavaria, b Pestonji	1
Clark, not out	5
Meader, } to bat	
Colley, }	
Extras	15

Total (for 8 wickets) 66

We are courteously informed by the local Superintendent of the Cable Companies that the Telegraph Conference, at which delegates of all the telegraph administrations attend and discuss regulations, tariffs, etc., which was to have been held last year and was postponed to the 10th February, 1902, has been further postponed to the summer of 1903.

FOOTBALL.

The replayed Shield tie between the R.E. and H. Co., R.W.F., ended in favour of the latter by 3 goals to nil.

On the 2nd inst. the Navy beat the H.K.F.C. at the Rugby game by 3 goals 2 tries to a try. As in the previous games between these sides this season, the Navy backs were far too good for their opponents.

HONGKONG F.C. V. OFFICERS OF THE FLEET.

Ideal weather favoured the above in their match at the Happy Valley on the 4th inst., and quite three hundred spectators witnessed the start. The following were the teams:—

Hongkong F.C.—C. F. Kew; W. G. Worcester and W. H. Russell; W. H. Howard, J. W. C. Bonnar, and R. Kerr; A. M. Beattie, J. D. Danby, T. Von der Pfordten, Capt. Tulloch, R.A., and A. R. Lowe.

Fleet—Partington; Benson and Tatham; Crossman, Bartlett, and Stanley; Macdonald, Shettle, Hughes, M. Hardy and Macguire.

Punctually at 4.15 the Fleet kicked off against the sun. Neither side made much progress until from a throw-in the sailors tried to score, but without success, the ball being smartly returned by Russell. A throw for the Club near the Navy end looked dangerous, but was cleared. Neither side was making much shape at combination, wild kicking being indulged in, the consequence being that throws-in were frequent, making the following of the game anything but interesting. The Navy at this time looked like scoring, but Russell again came to the rescue with a strong punt. Von der Pfordten made a bad mess of a likely opportunity, his shot going wide. A spell of attacking by the Club almost resulted in a score, but Partington was not called upon to handle. A corner to the Navy was nicely placed, and they had hard lines in not scoring. Lowe had a splendid run down the line, his centre, however, being taken by one of the Navy backs. The teams had now settled down to their proper play, and the following was thereby greatly improved. From an attack on the Navy goal the ball was sent to Russell, who sent in a strong curling shot, completely deceiving the goalkeeper and landing in the corner of the net. Capt. Tulloch, with an open goal, shot high over the bar. The Navy were playing hard to equalise, but the the Club defence was more than equal to the occasion. A second corner for the Navy very nearly brought the equaliser, but, fortunately for the Club, was saved by Kew. Partington then had a chance of showing his qualities, his handling of the ball being first-rate. Just on half-time Macdonald sent in a splendid shot, which was just a trifle wide. The Club had slightly the better of their opponents during this half, their superiority being about represented by their one goal lead. Half-time—Club, one goal; Fleet, nil.

Without wasting any time the Club restarted play. Von der Pfordten dodged several opponents and passed to Lowe, whose shot missed the post by inches. From a splendidly placed corner by Beattie a second goal was scored for the Club. A good combined run by the Navy ended in the ball going past, and a minute later with a little luck they would have scored. Worcester received a bad knock on the face drawing blood. The Navy were now having more say in the game, and the best run of the match by Macdonald and an excellently timed centre brought them a well deserved goal, scored by Macguire. Keeping up the pressure the Navy almost had a second goal; but Russell came to the relief. The Club forwards made tracks for the Navy half, only to be sent back again. Most of the Naval runs were initiated from their right wing, and from a pass right into the goal-mouth Macguire headed the equaliser amid applause. Play all through this half had been interesting, and now it was quite exciting, as both teams did not spare themselves in their efforts to obtain the lead. For some time neither side had the advantage, play being confined to the centre of the field. A dangerous shot from the Navy left was charged down by Bonnar. Time and again Russell saved his side by his strong kicking, Worcester, perhaps on account of his accident, being not at all sure in his kicks. Lowe, when well placed, was

justly given off-side. A strong shot from Beattie grazed the bar—deserving a better fate. Time was called with the scores standing at two all.

The contest was one of the most enjoyable of the season, the play, except for a short time at the commencement, being well-contested and fast. The Naval men deserve special praise for their grand display on account of this game being their first as a team.

H.M.S. "GLORY" v. H.M.S. "PIQUE."

This match in the China Squadron League was played on the Naval ground at Happy Valley on the 4th inst. before a great number of men from the respective ships and the public. The play was fast and interesting. At half-time the *Glory* led by one goal to nil. The second half was mostly in favour of the *Glory*, who finally won by four goals to nil. For the winners Moor and Milford were the pick, while Morgan in goal, though not kept very busy, showed some first-class points. The *Glory* have now an enviable position in the League, having won thirteen matches, drawn one, and lost nil; while their goals record reads—59 goals for, and 4 against.

CHALLENGE SHIELD—H.M.S. "ORLANDO" v. 34TH CO. R.A.

The above teams met at Happy Valley on the 8th inst. in the first round of the Challenge Shield Competition. The teams were as follows:—

34th Co. R.A.—Goal, G. Rhodes; backs, J. Anderson and G. Woods; half-backs, W. Fanna, T. Henderson, and W. Burn; forwards, Brown, J. Meggs, F. Allan, Captain Clapham, and Lieut. Griffiths.

H.M.S. *Orlando*—Goal—H. Thomas; backs, W. Bingham and E. A. B. Stanley; half-backs, J. Rooney, H. Crossman and P. Arnold; forwards, J. Kipling, C. McIlhone, A. Biggan, G. Higgins and W. Dent.

Referee—Mr. Broadbent, R.A. Linesmen—Gunner Milne, 50th Co., and H. Dowling.

The Artillery kicked off against the sun and got well down into their opponents' territory, but were repulsed by the back defence. Then the *Orlando* had a look in, and Kipling on the left had a try for goal from the corner flag, which resulted in a bye. From a foul awarded to them early in the game, well down the field, the R.A. got to close quarters again, but nothing came of it, the ball going over the bar. They were not long in returning to the attack, however, and had several tries in quick succession, for the failure of which bad shooting was responsible. Fanna from half-back position sent in a beauty, which Thomas punted out with difficulty and which was ultimately cleared by Stanley, who was playing a fine defence. A run by the *Orlando* right wing followed and looked promising, but Dent slipped and fell when about to centre. The left wing of the *Orlando* were not long before they also got on the run, and after some close play up the touch-line Kipling kicked across the goal-mouth and Dent neatly notched the first point of the match. The *Orlando* forwards were showing superiority in close passing and trickiness and were being well held together by Biggan in centre. The R.A. wings so far had their share of the play but were woefully weak in front of goal. Half-time was reached with the *Orlando* pressing.

Score—*Orlando*, 1 goal; R.A., nil.

From the kick-off the naval right wing got away well, and Dent had a cross-shot which resulted in a fruitless corner. The bye-kick was after some passages in mid-field returned to the R.A. territory by Bingham with a splendid kick, and another corner fell to the handy men, but was again safely cleared. Close upon this came a run by the R.A. rights, and Clapham and Griffiths had very hard lines in not scoring. Thomas had to do all he knew to keep his charge intact. Nowise disheartened by this failure, the Artillery returned to the attack. The front rank carried play up the field in magnificent style; Griffiths centred faultlessly, and Allan banged the ball into the net. But the goal was declared off-side, a decision the reasons for which were not altogether obvious. There now ensued a spell during which the *Orlando* did all the pressing. From both wings came shot after shot, and it was only owing to the excellence of the defence that no more points came the way of the *Orlando*. Rhodes

distinguished himself in goal and was well supported by his backs, especially Wood; on the attacking side McIlhone was perhaps the most prominent. From this close investment of their goal the Artillery were at length successful in breaking away. Griffiths got the ball at his foot and running up to within shooting distance sent in a well directed shot. Thomas managed to clear, but Henderson was on the spot and returned a splendid ball which Griffiths tipped through the goal. Off-side again was the referee's verdict, and as there was no further scoring the game ended in favour of the *Orlando*. A draw would have been a fair index of the respective merits of the teams, and the R.A. deserved it.

HONGKONG F.C. "A" TEAM v. ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL CHOIR.

On the Hongkong ground on the 6th inst. these teams met in a friendly encounter. Neither team was as advertised, but lined up as follows:—

Hongkong F.C.—C. T. Kew; T. M. Cornby and W. G. Worcester; E. W. Carpenter. I. V. Bennett and E. I. Davies; H. A. Seth, E. E. Deacon, A. Beattie, J. Norton Kyshe, and E. Burns Pye.

St. John's Cathedral Choir.—C. W. Marshall; C. H. P. Hay, and Sergt. French; W. Armstrong, G. H. Ruby, and W. J. Terrill; A. Cunningham, Rev. R. F. Cobbold, A. G. Ward, Sergt. Adams, and G. W. Coster.

Referee—Mr. F. Brown.

The game was not of a brilliant description, though keenly contested. The Choir team held their own in the open, but were sadly weak in front of goal. Seth scored the first goal for the Club after five minutes' play with a long shot, which landed in the corner of the net, quite out of Marshall's reach. Before half-time the Club added a second.

The play in the second half was much the same as in the first, the Club adding one more goal to their total. Time was called with the score—Club, three; Choir, nil.

For the Choir C. H. P. Hay played a splendid game at back, his kicking being at all times sure and strong. The return match will take place on the 20th inst., and for this game the choir expect to be at full strength.

ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB

CAPTAIN'S CUP AND SILVER MEDAL FOR JANUARY.

Bright cold weather was experienced during the meeting, and good entries for the Competitions resulted. The course was in good order, and although the greens were keen, some very level scores were returned.

CAPTAIN'S CUP.

Mr. Badham Thornhill, R.A.	99	—	18	81
Mr. C. M. G. Burnie	83	—	1	82
Commr. H. J. Davison, R.N.	95	—	13	82
Mr. J. F. Badesley	94	—	11	83
Mr. J. H. T. McMurtrie	82	+	2	84
Mr. T. S. Forrest	84	+	2	86
Commr. R. M. Ramsey R.N.	95	—	11	84
Commr. Erskine, R.N.	104	—	16	88
Mr. C. H. P. Hay	108	—	18	90
Mr. W. W. Clark	111	—	9	92

18 entries.

POOL.

Mr. T. S. Forrest	78	+	2	80
Mr. W. W. Clark	89	—	9	80
Mr. Badham Thornhill, R.A.	99	—	18	81
Mr. C. M. G. Burnie	83	—	1	82
Commr. H. J. Davison, R.N.	95	—	13	82
Mr. J. H. T. McMurtrie	82	+	2	84
Commr. Erskine R.N.	104	—	16	88
Capt. F. H. Henderson R.N.	101	—	11	90

22 entries.

The Quarterly Meeting for the MacEuen Cup, etc., will be held from Friday, 14th, to Monday, 13th January, when it is to be hoped a good field will turn out.

The Japanese vernacular papers report that the European liners of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha will call at Shanghai from this month onward. The *Sado Maru*, which leaves Yokohama for the south on the 14th inst., will be the first vessel to call at Shanghai. There will be slight alterations regarding the length of time which the vessels will stop at Kobe, Moji, and Hongkong, to enable Marseilles to be reached in the same number of days from Yokohama as heretofore.

SHOOTING MATCH.

On Saturday, the 4th inst., representatives of "D" Infantry Co. of the Hongkong Volunteers and the Sergeants of the 2nd Battalion R.W.F. held a Team Shoot on the Association Range at Kowloon. The teams have already met on two occasions, once at the New Volunteer Range at Tai Hang, when the Volunteers succeeded in beating their opponents by 23 points, and again at Stonecutter's Island, where, however, the match was shot under very unfavourable conditions as to weather, rain falling heavily during the greater part of the afternoon. On this occasion the R.W.F. succeeded in reversing the result of the former match, a performance which they repeated on Saturday, being the victors on this third trial of skill by 31 points. The conditions were seven shots and two sighters at each range (200, 500, and 600 yards). Nine men fired in each team and the best eight scores were counted on either side. A very uncertain light which prevailed while firing was going on at 500 and 600 yards tended to prevent any good scores being made, quite a number of the members of both teams breaking down at the latter distance. The following are the scores:—

SERGTS. R.W.F.				
	200	500	600	Total
Sergt. D. Mackie	28	28	29	85
Band Sergt. Adams	32	27	23	82
Sergt. Moore	30	26	22	78
Sergt. Dean	25	28	20	73
Sergt. Baker	25	20	27	72
Sergt. Gazebrook	26	32	11	69
Sergt. Thomas	29	25	14	68
Sergt. Hulcoop	27	24	10	61
	222	210	156	588
"D" INFANTRY CO.				
	200	500	600	Total
Private Watson	32	33	23	88
Corporal Andrew	31	26	23	81
Private Mackenzie	28	27	25	80
Corporal Ritchie	26	27	21	74
Capt. Forbes	24	27	21	72
Col. Sergt. McKenzie	20	22	22	64
Lieutenant Skinner	21	27	12	60
Private Scott	21	4	13	38
	204	193	160	557

HOIHOW CHRISTMAS SPORTS, 1901.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Encouraged by the success which crowned the efforts made last year to dispel the monotony of this port, these sports were repeated this Christmas on the same spot known as the Coconut Grove, the property of the Imperial Maritime Customs, kindly placed by the Commissioner of Customs, Mr. J. Acheson, at the disposal of the Committee. The Clerk of the Weather was gracious enough to grant a glorious day for this entertainment, but it was a little too hot for the time of the year. A mat-shed was erected for the accommodation of the ladies who enlivened the sports with their amiable presence. A second shed was put up for Chinese subscribers, who very liberally contributed towards the funds for the purchase of cups and other expenses. Thousands of natives were on the ground as spectators; they were orderly and did not require the assistance of the police to prevent encroachment upon the ground set apart for the various events, the members of the Committee sufficing to keep them back.

In bringing the sports to a close, Miss Sequeira handed the prizes accompanied by a few choice words to each of the successful competitors, who were called to the ladies' stand.

The following was the programme:—

Pig Race; Pigs to be driven with lines not exceeding 6 feet in length, and a stick, to be approved by the Committee. Any competitor getting in front of his pig will be disqualified. One Prize.

Mr. Atkinson's	...	Dandy Dennis
Mr. Frederick's	...	Charles
Mr. Mottram's	...	Pride of Hoihow
Mr. Murray's	...	Patrick
Mr. Otto's	...	Sausage
Mr. Ryan's	...	Moriturus

Mr. Veitch's ... *Silk Purse*
 Ryan's *Moriturus* proved himself to be capable of learning how to run straight, for with a little coaxing from his owner he led the way to the other less educated and reached the tape far ahead of the other animals. Three only ran home; the others went in different directions.

Ryan's *Moriturus* ... 1
 Murray's *Patrick* ... 2
 Mottram's *Pride of Hoihow* ... 3

10 YARDS' HANDICAP.—Two Prizes.

Scratch ... Mr. B. Ryan.
 3 yards ... Mr. J. Mottram.
 4 yards ... Mr. A. Otto.
 5 yards ... Mr. G. F. Veitch.
 7 yards ... Mr. W. Frederick.
 10 yards ... Mr. H. A. Atkinson.
 ... Mr. W. Murray.

This was a splendid race; about half way the competitors were in a cluster led only by Mottram who, although penalised, forged ahead shortly after the start and kept his lead by ten yards from the others. Otto and Murray struggled for the second place and ran very close together up to the tape.

Mottram ... 1
 Otto ... 2
 Murray ... 5

HIGH JUMP.—One Prize.

Mr. Frederick Mr. Murray
 Mr. Mottram Mr. Ryan

Mr. Veitch

In this competition five entered; after a few trials Mottram and Ryan were left to finish the contest, which resulted in Ryan beating his plucky opponent, by clearing 4ft. 3in. easily and with a few inches to spare. In the competition for third place Veitch won.

Ryan ... 4ft. 3in. ... 1
 Mottram ... 2
 Veitch ... 3

STONE AND BUCKET RACE.—Two Prizes.

Mr. Frederick Mr. Murray
 Mr. Mottram Mr. Otto
 ... Mr. Veitch

Murray had 10 yds. start and picked up his stones first. In running to the winning post Mottram rushed ahead and won by about seven yards.

Mottram ... 1
 Murray ... 2

PONY RACE; out, round a post, and in owners not allowed to ride their own ponies but to have mounts assigned to them by lot; owner of pony last past the winning post to receive the prize; no saddles, whips, or spurs allowed. One Prize.

Mottram drew Atkinson's *Ballyhooly*
 Murray " Veitch's *Faugh-a-ballaugh*
 Frederick " Ryan's *Piccon*
 Otto " Murray's *Prince*
 Atkinson " Mottram's *Madder River*
 Ryan " Frederick's *Spot*
 Veitch " Otto's *Hans*

The first jockey in was Ryan, closely followed by Atkinson; Veitch managed to lag behind and brought Otto's pony last; Mottram last but one.

SACK RACE.

Mr. Frederick Mr. Murray
 Mr. Mottram Mr. Ryan

Mr. Veitch

In this race Murray led all the way to the winning post; at the start Veitch was a good second, but after clearing some fifteen yards he had a fall which put him out of the race, as Mottram and Frederick were down upon him and went ahead in good form; Murray won by many yards.

Murray ... 1
 Mottram ... 2
 Frederick ... 3

TUG OF WAR.—Entries.

Team Team
 Ryan Atkinson
 Murray Mottram
 Frederick Veitch

This contest was easily won by Ryan's team who pulled their opponents twice consecutively.

VICTORIA CROSS RACE.—Course and assignment of mounts, as in Pony Race. Competitors to race to dummies, dismount, pick them up, remount and return with them to winning post. Owner of last pony to receive the prize. No saddles, whips, or spurs allowed. One Prize.

The same riders and ponies as in the Pony Race. Ryan came in first with Frederick at his heels. Veitch brought his pony to the winning post ten minutes after all the other ponies were in, and won the prize for Mottram.

TUG OF WAR.—For Customs Boatmen.

The two capt. ins picked their men by turns. This resulted in balancing the two teams so equally that the first attempt had to be given up after fifteen minutes' pulling. At the second trial the winning team pulled their opponents in a few minutes.

Winner of each event to receive 5 points, second 3 points, and third 1 point. Each member of the winning team in the Tug-of-war to receive 1 point. Cup presented by H. E. the Taotai to be awarded to the competitor scoring the highest total of points during the meeting.

This trophy was gained by Mottram who scored the highest number of points.

Three cheers for the ladies and three for the committee brought this much enjoyed meeting to a close.

Judges:—Mr. J. Acheson, Mr. F. Belin.
 Committee:—Dr. S. L. Lasell, Mrs. B. Ryan,
 T. Mr. Shirdan. Starter:—Mr. G. A. Forsaith.

HEAVY AMERICAN LOSS IN SAMAR.

Yet another successful bolo rush is to be recorded in the dark annals which deal with Samar, says the *Manila Times* of the 28th ult. A strong force of savages attacked a small detachment of men of the 9th U. S. Infantry, inflicting severe loss upon the little band, who realised that they were at the mercy of a horde of cut-throats, and fought with a desperation equalled only by the band who escaped from the general massacre at Balaguinon. Out of a force of eighteen men engaged in a desperate hand-to-hand fight with an overwhelming insurgent horde seven were killed, five seriously wounded, two slightly wounded, and the captain in command slightly wounded. An official telegram, giving the details of the fight, was received in this city last evening, from headquarters department of South Philippines. Captain Schoeffel, of the 9th Infy., with eighteen men, was scouting the country, having received word that there were numbers of insurgents infesting the neighbourhood. At a point near the pueblo of Dapdap, while the detachment, consisting of eighteen men from Company E, were struggling through a dense thicket, they were suddenly surprised by a savage yell from onrushing bolomen, who had been lying in ambush in the thicket, awaiting their approach. The little band was entirely surrounded by the savages, who sprang from the thicket on every side, rushing the detachment, and a bloody and desperate hand-to-hand conflict ensued. Rifles were used as clubs, being smashed over the heads of the attacking force, the detachment realising that it was a fight for life with a horde of blood-thirsty men who knew no quarter. After several of the detachment had succeeded in bringing their rifles into play, the attacking force of bolomen began to speedily diminish under the rapid and well directed fire, and those who remained realised that victory was not to be had even with their overwhelming force, and hastily retreated, suffering heavy loss. The detachment also lost heavily, only four out of the eighteen men having escaped without receiving a wound.

The attacking force was driven from the field without the loss of any property, the insurgents not being able to get away with a single gun. The loss of the enemy, while not given in numbers, is reported as heavy, which could naturally be expected in a fight at close quarters where the attacking force, consisting of a large number, are driven off the field.

A detachment of native soldiers, under Lieutenant Lang, heard the report of heavy firing and hastened forward to reinforce the detachment, but arrived too late to take part in the battle, as the four men who were not wounded, assisted by their wounded comrades, who were fighting to the death, had played havoc with the enemy's ranks. It is believed that the bolomen were aware of the approach of the reinforcements and hastened their retreat.

The arriving party, under Lieutenant Lang,

assisted in burying the dead and caring for and removing the wounded from the field. Had Lieut. Lang and his force not arrived to assist in the work of removing the wounded, it is hardly probable that they would have ever reached their station again. It is more than likely the entire detachment would have suffered annihilation while caring for their wounded comrades.

In the face of such hordes of savages, who infest the island of Samar at the present time, all the vaunted and much talked of "peace negotiations" are an empty farce, the *Times* comments. Fire, cold steel, hot lead and hemp will prove more effectual in the end than any negotiating or legislating that may be enacted.

TRADE IN NORTHERN SIAM.

The following remarks are from Mr. Consul W. R. D. Beckett's report on the trade of the Consular district of Chiengmai—the whole of Northern Siam—in 1900:—

The year 1901 was, except as regards teak, a dull one for trade, and with that one exception, calls for little comment. Local shopkeepers attributed the dullness to the enhanced price of all European goods, which, coupled with a low rupee-lital exchange as compared with previous years, made prices prohibitive to the Lao peasant purchaser, and reduced the profits of traders to a minimum. An explanation of the poor market given by a Chinese trader at Utaradit on the Nan River, where Bangkok goods are stocked for distribution to the Nan and Phre markets, is though somewhat pathetic and hardly historically correct, interesting, as throwing a side-light on public opinion in Northern Siam. The Chinese trader's explanation was that no fewer than 60 foreign merchant vessels laden with merchandise had been captured on the high seas by the victorious Chinese in their war with all the Foreign Powers. Hence the scarcity of trading goods in Utaradit. The rice crop was, it is true, slightly damaged by the excessive rains which continued, strange to say, nearly two months beyond the ordinary period, and by a visitation of caterpillars after the rains had ceased. But the harvest was, on the whole, normal, and the country people were satisfied with their stocks of grain.

Operations in teak, successful though their result was during the year owing to the excellent floating season, can hardly be reckoned as a factor in determining the general commercial prosperity or otherwise of this Consular district. A good timber season means a hardly-earned increment to the timber firms, and an accumulation of timber at the duty station followed during the ensuing year by an increased export from Bangkok, but affects only lightly and indirectly the general purchasing power of the bulk of the population who take no part in extracting the took but confine themselves as a rule to agricultural pursuits. Speaking generally, the year was one of average prosperity to the population of Northern Siam, though the returns of over- and trade available show considerable decrease in exports and imports. This decrease is due, in the opinion of those best qualified to judge, to the irritating regulations as to passports imposed during the year by the Siamese authorities. These regulations, introduced to check dacoity, have had the unfortunate, though doubtless unintentional, effect of intimidating the overland pack-trader, whether he imports hats and hardware from Kengtung, or takes Chiengmai bullocks for sale in Lower Burma. Encouragement to trade, whether transfrontier or otherwise, has never at any time been a conspicuous characteristic of the local authorities. The present passport system will if continued, soon prove fatal to a transfrontier and inter-State commercial intercourse, which, if properly fostered, might develop into one of considerable magnitude.

With regard to the teak trade the percentages according to nationality for 1898 and 1899 were:—

	1898	1899
British	59	69
Danish	2	5
Chinese, Siamese, etc. ...	39	26

Mr. Beckett says:—Thus it may be seen that British interests still preponderate in the ratio of about 3 to 5. Considering that the amount of British capital invested is estimated to be 2,000,000 £, this ratio is not disproportionate.

A HONGKONG APPEAL CASE.

HO TUNG V THE MAN ON INSURANCE CO., LD.
The following is the report of the judgment of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council (Lords Macnaghten, Shand, Davey, Robertson, and Lindley) on the 30th November on the above case:—

This was an appeal from a judgment of the Supreme Court of Hongkong of July 3, 1900, affirming a decision of the Chief Justice.

Mr. Haldane, K. C., and Mr. Duncan M. Kerly were counsel for the appellant; Mr. Butcher, K. C., and Mr. Austen-Cartmell for the respondent company.

The arguments for the appellant—the other side not being called on—were recently heard before a board composed of Lord Macnaghten, Lord Shand, Lord Davey, Lord Robertson and Lord Lindley, when judgment was reserved.

Lord Davey, in now delivering their Lordships' judgment, said the sole question was whether the regulations of the respondent company were those contained in its articles of association registered at Hongkong or those contained in Table A in the first schedule to the Companies' Ordinance, Hongkong, 1865, under the provisions of which the company was incorporated in 1881. Sections 6, 11, and 14 to 18 of the ordinance were substantially identical with the sections bearing the same numbers in the Companies Act, 1862, and Table A in the schedule to the ordinance corresponded with Table A in the Companies Act. By section 14 it was enacted that the memorandum of association might, in the case of a company limited by shares, be accompanied when registered by articles of association signed by the subscribers to the memorandum of association. By section 15 if the memorandum of association was not accompanied by articles, or so far as the articles did not exclude the regulations in Table A, those regulations became the regulations of the company, and by section 17 it was enacted that the memorandum of association and the articles of association, if any, should be delivered to the Registrar, who was to retain and register the same. In the present case the memorandum of association was duly signed by nine persons, and their signature was duly attested. The memorandum was accompanied by a small printed book purporting to contain "articles of association of the 'Man On' Insurance Company (Limited)," but those articles were not signed. The Registrar, however, registered them with the memorandum and thereupon gave a certificate of the incorporation of the company. The articles so registered had been in use by the company from that date until the present time. They had been twice amended by special resolutions which had been registered. In 1885 certain articles were added, and the special resolution was in the following words:—"That at the end of the articles of association of the company there be added to and incorporated with the said articles the following regulations, that is to say," &c. And in 1894 the resolution was "that Article 72 of the company's articles of association is hereby cancelled, and that there should be substituted therefor the following regulation." The present question had arisen in this way. A purchaser and transferee of shares in the company applied for registration. The registered articles contained a power for the directors to prevent and disallow the sale or transfer of shares to a transferee whom they did not consider a fit person to hold shares. In exercise of that power the directors refused to register the transferee, who thereupon moved the Court to have the register rectified by registering him as the holder of the shares, and raised the question whether the directors had the power which which they claimed to reject the transfer. It was contended that, in the circumstances, the regulation contained in Table A were the only regulations of the company. The Chief Justice held that the enactment in section 18 of the ordinance making the certificate of incorporation conclusive evidence that all the requisitions of the ordinance had been complied with applied to this case, and refused the

motion. On appeal, the Chief Justice adhered to his opinion; Mr. Justice Kercombe Smith differed from him. The original order was therefore affirmed. It was not denied that, if the company was governed by the registered articles, the directors were entitled to reject the transfer. In Table A, on the other hand, there was no such power. It appeared, therefore, that these articles had been registered and published and put forward as the company's only articles of association, and had been acted on, amended, and added to by the shareholder, and the company's business had been conducted under the regulations contained therein for 16 years without any objection; and the company states that they were its articles of association. Their Lordships thought that in these circumstances they were entitled to draw the inference that all the shareholders had accepted and adopted the articles as the valid and operative articles of association of the company. The articles of association stood on a very different footing from the memorandum, and were in the power of the shareholders themselves. The apparent object of requiring the articles to be signed before registration was to secure the adhesion of the only members of the company at that time to the regulations contained therein. It was, no doubt, imperative on the Registrar to require the articles to be signed before registering them, as it was to see that they complied with the other requisitions of the ordinance, as for example that they were printed and expressed in paragraphs numbered arithmetically. But there was no reason why the shareholders should not adopt them although irregularly registered. The statutory mode of doing so was by special resolution, but that again was only machinery for securing the assent of the shareholders or a sufficient majority of them. In the "Phosphate of Lime Company v. Green" (L.R. 7 C.P., 43) it was held that the company was bound by the acquiescence of the shareholders in an act done by the directors in direct violation of the articles of association, although there had been no alteration of the articles by a special resolution. In commenting on the cases arising out of the Agriculturalist Cattle Insurance Company, Lord Cairns, in "Ashbury Railway Carriage Company v. Riche" (L.R. 7 H.L. 653, at p. 674) said, "If they had sanctioned what had been done without the formality of a resolution it was quite clear that that would have been perfectly sufficient." He added, "So also in the case of the Phosphate of Lime Company the question was whether that had been done by the sanction of the company which clearly might have been done by a resolution passed by the company." Their Lordships thought that by the acquiescence and agreement of the shareholders shown by a long course of dealing the registered articles had become and were the articles of association of the company as surely as if they had been formally adopted by special resolution. They would therefore humbly advise His Majesty that the appeal be dismissed. The appellant would pay the costs of it.

THE CONDITION OF FORMOSA.

We take the following account of an interview from the *Kobe Chronicle* of the 1st inst:—

It will perhaps be learned with some surprise that there are almost forty thousand Japanese in Formosa engaged in trade or commerce of various descriptions. Formosa is still regarded as being remote from Japan, and foreigners are inclined to think of the Japanese in the island as being confined mainly to the official class. The number of officials, including policemen and civil officers, is about five thousand, who govern a population not exceeding two millions and a half. To the officials must be added a garrison of two brigades, consisting of about twenty thousand men, so that it will be seen the total number of Japanese in the island is between sixty and seventy thousand. In the opinion of many Japanese who have taken up their residence in Formosa, the time has now come when a reform in government should take place in the direction of allowing the population, and particularly, we suppose, the Japanese part of the population, some share in the control of administration. At present the island is administered rather as if it were under military rule than as a part of

the Japanese empire in which the rights and privileges of the subject are governed by Constitution. The conditions in Formosa are of course so different that it is not wonderful to find that the administration is framed on different lines, but it is complained that as matters stand there is far too much despotic authority vested in the officials.

The unofficial Japanese in Formosa have delegated two gentlemen to visit Japan proper and make their grievances public, in the hope that changes will be effected before long as the result of the publicity given. These two gentlemen are Mr. Hagiwara, editor of the *Taiwan Mimpo*, and Mr. Kobayashi, a barrister, who is also connected with the same journal. The case of these gentlemen, who called upon us a few days ago with the object of a personal interview, is briefly that as the Governor-General of Formosa has full power of legislation, and is advised solely by the officials of his *entourage*, the government of Formosa tends to be carried on as a bureaucracy, where the interests of officials naturally assume much more importance than the interests of the island. No criticism is permitted, and any Japanese who dares to say anything against the officials or against the local government is promptly deported. "As a matter of fact," said one of our visitors, "the Peace Preservation Law which was repealed some years ago so far as the mainland is concerned is put into operation in Formosa just as if the Diet had never objected to it."

In reply to a question as to whether the Chinese had any recognised means of making their wishes known or bringing their grievances to the notice of the authorities, we were told that in each district a Chinese was chosen as a sort of head-man and to be a means of communication between the local government and the people. In effect he became an official, being given a small salary, but he was never consulted upon the views of the Chinese. He merely conveyed the orders of the local government to the people, reported upon the number of persons in each house for taxation purposes, and, in the case of the construction of public works—such, for example, as a railway—he conveyed the order for the appropriation of land. Japanese residents were also appointed on committees of taxation, but their functions were confined solely to reporting on the individual capacity to pay certain taxes, and they had no power of representation. The consequence was that the officials had everything their own way, and the result was not very satisfactory either in the interests of the residents or of the island generally.

Messrs. Hagiwara and Kobayashi hold that the time has come to grant some power of representation and administration to the residents. Probably the time is not ripe, they think, for the grant of full rights, as the situation is complicated by the Chinese population, but there can scarcely be any reason why Japanese residents and Chinese who have become Japanese subjects should not be granted at least representative rights. If the residents had some means of making their voices heard, a check would be exercised upon the officials which is at present altogether wanting. Above all the power of deporting persons who are objectionable to the officials should be taken away, and those who have committed any offence should be subjected to the law. To allow officials to be the sole judges of whether a man is or is not a desirable person, they consider altogether out of harmony with the spirit of the Japanese Constitution. It leads to cases of great hardship, and opens the way to intimidation on the part of unscrupulous officials, preventing criticism even of the mildest character, and thus militating against the public interest. Messrs. Kobayashi and Hagiwara make out a strong case; and it is to be hoped that their mission to Tokyo will have some success if only in directing attention to affairs in Formosa.

In reply to a question as to the position of foreigners in Formosa, regarding which complaints occasionally reached Japan, Mr. Hagiwara said in the opinion of Japanese the officials listened far more to complaints from foreigners than from Japanese. We remarked on the question of titles to land, and asked whether considerable difficulties had not arisen, when the Japanese took over control, from

refusal to recognise certain titles held by foreigners. Mr. Hagiwara said the position was this. While foreigners under the old Treaties with China had the right to purchase and own land in the Settlements, they had no more right, at least in the case of merchants, to own land outside the Settlements than in Japan proper. During the Chinese régime, however, a number of foreigners purchased land outside the Settlements with official connivance, and especially became possessed of tracts of camphor forest. After the Japanese had taken over control of the island and things were settling down, the authorities demanded as one of the initial measures of government the registration of all title-deeds to land, but when foreigners put in title-deeds of property outside the Settlements the authorities declined to recognise them. Such title-deeds the Government held to be an infraction of the old Treaty, while they were also invalid under the law of Japan. But the authorities, Mr. Hagiwara says, made no difficulty so long as foreigners nominally brought themselves into conformity with the law. For example, a considerable amount of property outside the Settlements had come into the hands of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, and in this case, with the object of bringing the title deeds into accordance with the law, a well-known barrister of Tokyo was made trustee under a deed by which all the profits derived from the property were paid over to the Banking Corporation concerned. Other foreigners made arrangements with Chinese or Japanese to act as nominal owners of the property, and only in cases where foreigners refused to take such a course did any trouble arise. Such is the statement made by Mr. Hagiwara. Whether it covers all the cases of dispute we cannot say, but it is at least interesting as showing the Japanese view of the title-deed question in Formosa.

HONGKONG.

The visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum were 185 non-Chinese and 94 Chinese to the former, and 75 non-Chinese and 1,738 Chinese to the latter institution.

It was reported on the 6th inst. that a coolie had been killed on the previous day by a fall of stone in the quarry at Ma Ti.

The appointments of Capt. the Hon. H. W. Trefusis, Scots Guards, to be A.D.C., and of Mr. R. F. Johnston to be Private Secretary to H.E. the Officer administering the Government are notified in the *Gazette*.

The Hongkong Chess Club has commenced a level tournament, in which all the members of the Club are requested to take part if possible, for the purpose of aiding the committee in their task of reclassifying the players and ascertaining the strength of new members.

It is reported by the police that the steam launch *Cheong Ching* ran down rowing boat No. 3632 in the Harbour opposite Wing Lok Street West and capsized it, throwing the occupants, seven in number, into the water. All were picked up by boats in the vicinity. The owner of the boat estimates the damage at \$100.

Shortly after 7 p.m. on the 7th inst. fire broke out in a two-story Chinese shop and stores in Connaught Road, a little to the east of Salt Fish Lane. The Fire Brigade turned out promptly under Mr. A. Mackie, Acting Deputy Captain Superintendent of Police, and were successful in preventing the fire spreading to the neighbouring buildings. The whole tenement in which the outbreak occurred was, however, practically burned out.

At 6.15 p.m. on the 4th inst. fire broke out in the carpenter's shop at 10, Sai Woo Lane, in the Western district, occupied by Wong Kwok. The Fire Brigade turned out under Mr. A. Mackie and were successful in confining the conflagration to the building in which it originated. This was completely gutted, however, before the fire was extinguished, and an adjoining house, 24, Eastern Street, was more or less damaged by water. The damage is estimated at \$1,000 and is covered by an insurance of \$2,000 with Messrs. Meyers & Co. It is not known definitely how the outbreak originated, but it is supposed that an overheated fine set fire to a number of books stocked on the roof.

The police report the death of a coolie in the timber-yard at Kowloon godowns from injuries sustained by a log falling upon him.

The resignation by Capt. D. F. Tulloch, R.G.A., of his commission as Adjutant in the Hongkong Volunteer Corps is notified.

We are asked to state that Sir John W. Carrington's address during his stay at home is Inglewood, Weston Road, Southsea.

Gunners M. McIver, A. J. Mackie, C. E. Herbst, and S. A. Seth, Field Battery, H.K.V.C., have been promoted to the rank of bombardier.

Lieut.-Col. G. H. Ferrier, Army Pay Department, has been appointed to succeed Col. S. D. Crookenden as District Paymaster at Hongkong.

Capt. E. H. Bayly, C.B., delivered a very interesting lecture on the 3rd inst., before the United Services Institution, on his experiences at Tientsin, interspersed with a number of anecdotes.

During the past week one case of bubonic plague was reported in the City of Victoria, the victim, a Chinese, dying. The only other communicable disease reported was diphtheria, of which there was one case (Portuguese).

M. Droeze, Netherlands Consul-General, informs us that ships or vessels arriving in Netherlands-India from Hongkong are no longer subject to quarantine, the port of Hongkong being declared to be no longer infected with plague. The prohibition of the importation of some articles is also cancelled, so that all goods can now be imported into Netherlands-India from here.

The Bishop of Victoria has appointed the R. v. W. Baniister to be Archdeacon of Hongkong. This office was in times past held by Archdeacon Gray, the Consular Chaplain at Canton; but it has now been vacant for many years. The new appointment, we are told, is rendered necessary by the present development of the Chinese Branch of the Anglican Church, both in Hongkong and in the Province of Kwangtung, which calls for a more complete ecclesiastical organisation than has existed hitherto.

Among the arrivals by the *Coromandel* on the 5th inst. was Professor Simpson, one of the two newly appointed experts on the commission to enquire into the sanitary condition of Hongkong. Our readers have already been made acquainted with the details of Professor Simpson's past career. Professor Simpson, who was accompanied by his wife, was met by the Medical Officer of Health, Dr. F. W. Clark; owing to the rough weather encountered by the *Coromandel* he just missed arriving before the departure on leave of Sir Henry Blake. We understand that Mr. Osbert Chadwick arrives by the next English mail.

The steam launch *Tung Fat* was exposed for sale by public auction on Friday afternoon alongside Queen's Statue Wharf. There was a large attendance of Europeans and Chinese. The bidding was started by a Chinaman at \$2,000 and as the result of spirited competition was carried to \$5,600, at which figure the launch was knocked down to Mr. A. R. Marty. The sale was conducted by Mr. E. Jones Hughes of Messrs Hughes and Hough, auctioneers. The *Tung Fat* is only a few months out of the hands of Messrs. Bailey and Murphy, engineers, who have given her a thorough overhaul. Her length is 63 feet; beam, 11 feet 6 inches; and depth, 6 feet 3 inches in centre.

The evening of the 2nd inst. was spent in a very pleasant manner by the postmen of H.M. ships now in harbour at a dinner and a smoker at the Hongkong Hotel. The tables were cleared after a first-class dinner had been disposed of, and toasts were drunk as follows:—"King Edward VII.," "The noble Corps we belong to," and "Our Guests." Following these, songs were sung by Mr. Marshall, *Talbot*, Pte. Chellingsworth, *Glory*, Sergt. Lyall, *Glory*, Pte. Goodwin, *Glory*, Lce. Sergt. Presland, of the *Alacrity* (who leaves for home in a short time, and was encored), Sergt. Ash, *Bramble*, Gunner Pickworth, *Goliath*, and last but not least Mr. Mills, of the *Bramble*. Mr. Marshall then gave several very clever exhibitions in club-swinging, and was followed by Corpl. Martin, a clever comedian and a very good dancer. Sergt. Presland made a farewell speech, and a very enjoyable evening to all concerned ended with "God Save the King."

An International polo tournament is coming off very shortly. All four divisions of the United Kingdom are represented, but the Scots and Irish teams are at present very strong favourites. A prominent member of the S. Andrew's Society was heard on the 3rd inst. to wager a new "bowler" hat that Scotland would defeat Ireland.

A number of bluejackets, more or less under the influence of drink, caused a disturbance in the lower floor of the Central Market on Friday forenoon. They shied oranges at the stallholders and their *fokis*, and then played football with cabbages snatched from the stalls. In all probability they would have "larked" till they grew tired of their sport, but the Chinamen became tired of it first, and, seizing bamboo poles, attacked the astonished sailors and drove them off the premises. One blue jacket had his nose split by a blow, but his was the most serious casualty. He went to the Central Police Station to lodge a complaint of assault against the Chinaman who struck him, but the official on duty shrewdly guessed from the circumstances that the assault was not unprovoked, and sent the grumbling tar about his business.

H.M.S. *Albion* arrived on the 3rd inst. from Kobe.

The German cruiser *Hertha* left on the 3rd inst. for Saigon, as did the cruiser *Bussard*. The French cruiser *D'Entrecasteaux* left for Tonkin.

H.M.S. *Terrible* came into the harbour on the 4th inst. She left Weihaiwei on the 27th ult. The Russian battleship *Sissoi Veliky* left for Manila and the German gunboat *Tiger* for Bangkok on the 4th inst. H.M.S. *Endymion* returned from practice. The French cruiser *Chasseloup Laubat* left for Tonkin.

The Austrian gunboat *Aspern* arrived on the 6th inst. from Shanghai.

The Russian cruiser *Dimitri Donskoy* and gunboat *Vladimir Monomach* arrived from Nagasaki on the 7th inst. The German gunboat *Ilia* left for Macao.

H. M. S. *Pigmy* arrived on the 7th inst. from Shanghai. On the 18th the Austrian gunboat *Aspern* crossed over to Macao and the German gunboat *Ilia* returned from the same place.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Dr. H. Campbell Highet, formerly of Singapore, has been appointed Medical Officer of Health for Bangkok in place of Dr. Nightingale, retired.

The Christmas inter-team golf contest resulted as follows:—Singapore and Perak 267 each, Selangor 276, Sepoy Lines Club 291, Penang 296. On playing off the tie, Singapore beat Perak.

Colonel (Brigadier General) H. Pilon, C.B., Commanding Royal Artillery, China Field Force, has been placed on retired pay, and is granted the honorary rank of Major General in recognition of his services.

Thirty lighthouses are to be constructed along the coast of Corea. The total expenditure is estimated at one million yen. A steam boat of about 200 tons which is to be used for the inspection of lighthouses is expected from Osaka shortly.

In connection with the rioting in Kayakijima colliery near Nagasaki, thirty-one arrests were made and the accused are undergoing preliminary trial. The total damage sustained by the owners of the colliery is roughly estimated at over 10,000 yen.

H.M.S. *Daphne* arrived at Bangkok from Hongkong on the 24th ult. with Mr. Reginald Tower, the new British Minister Plenipotentiary, on board. He was met on landing by Mr. Archer. On the previous day Mr. Luiz Leopoldo Flores, the new Portuguese Consul-General, arrived by the s.s. *Dei*.

The newly built river gunboat *Teal* had a successful trial trip at Shanghai on the 3rd inst. She left the International Dock, under the direct supervision of Captain Baker of H.M.S. *Astræa* and Staff Engineer F. M. Cottam, assisted by Engineer W. Toop, who was sent from England to see the vessel riveted together and properly equipped for service. Everything passed off satisfactorily. A good opportunity was afforded for testing her capacity by certain turning trials and evolutions outside Woosang.

The Chinese community at Singapore, under the leadership of a Fokkien man, is about to establish a Confucian temple there and to engage a number of educated Chinese to preach to the Chinese emigrants in foreign countries. The undertaking has met the approval of H. E. Tao Mu, Viceroy of Canton, who has sent a letter of praise to the promoters of the establishment, extolling their patriotism.

The police at Nagasaki are taking energetic steps to prevent the sailors from the foreign men-of-war being overcharged or rushed by riksha-men. During one week, reports the *Nagasaki Press*, over thirty coolies were taken into custody by the police for this conduct and for abuse, and were mulcted in fines according to the nature of their offences. The *Kobe Chronicle* says that the police are similarly energetic at that port.

The *Echo de Chine* says:—The financial service of the Chinese debt will cause the creation in Shanghai of three new banks, an American, an Italian, and a Dutch. Mr. Goodnow, Consul-General of the United States, has been provisionally delegated by his government to control the service of the vote. The Marquis Nerazzini has likewise been appointed by his Government to an analogous post. M. van Walreese, a former Dutch consul at Shanghai, is expected shortly in this town; he will direct the future Netherlands bank.

On the 23rd ult. coolies employed at the Kayakijima colliery near Nagasaki, belonging to the Chemical Works Co. of Osaka, broke out in a riot. A gang of 30 men attacked the office of the colliery and the men were quickly joined by 400 others who carried clubs, bamboo spears and long swords. Toward the evening they lit several bonfires to enable them to see what they were doing. The mob then attempted to blow up the office with dynamite, but the dynamite did not explode. After this they threw stones at the office and almost demolished the building. The officers and overseers opened fire and some of them ventured to attack the mob with swords. Something very like a battle ensued. Eighteen men on both sides were severely injured in the fighting and two coolies were killed. The police who arrived at the island from Nagasaki at about nine the same evening dispersed the mob after a hard struggle. Twenty-three coolies, the leaders of the affair, were arrested and the remainder dispersed. The cause of the disturbance is reported to be an unsuccessful demand for an increase in pay together with better treatment. The latest despatch from Nagasaki stated that order has been restored.

It is rumoured that Viceroy Yuan Shi-kai is in hopes of being able to visit Japan shortly.

The Bank of China and Japan closed its Singapore branch on the 31st ult.

A semi-official note in the *Temps* of Paris states that "there is no Siam question at present, but that it would be a mistake to suppose that France is disposed to sacrifice the guarantees she possesses in order to determine various little questions."

The following is from the *Japan Mail*:—The Hon. Sir Horace Tozer, writing in the *Empire Review* about the question of a white Australia, says: "Japan can hardly complain of Australia's desire to manage her own affairs as to her own people seems best. Japanese legislation is not over-liberal to Australians, and in their military schools the Japanese make no secret of their ultimate aims to acquire territory in Australia." Sir Horace Tozer must have been greatly misled, or else he is one of those not uncommon writers that speak without serious thought. His statement that "Japanese legislation is not over-liberal to Australians" has no foundation whatever. Japanese legislation does not discriminate in the smallest degree against Australians. Her treaties are absolutely impartial in that matter, and if Sir Horace Tozer were required to give any practical illustration of his assertion, he would be much embarrassed. As for his second allegation that "in their military schools the Japanese make no secret of their ultimate aims to acquire territory in Australia," the only term applicable to it is "pure silliness." No such doctrine has ever been propounded in Japanese military schools within the knowledge of those best qualified to speak. If Australia's anti-Japanese legislation rests on any chimera of the kind—which we do not believe—she is battling with phantoms.

COMMERCIAL.

CAMPBOR.

HONGKONG, 10th January.—No arrivals.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 10th January.—The downward tendency continues, market being dull. Quotations are:—

Shekloong, No. 1, White.....	\$8.53 to \$8.57	pol.
do. " 2, White.....	7.55 to 7.60	"
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown ..	5.90 to 5.95	"
do. " 2, Brown ..	5.75 to 5.80	"
Swatow, No. 1, White.....	8.40 to 8.45	"
do. " 1, White.....	7.40 to 7.45	"
Swatow, No. 1, Brown ..	5.80 to 5.85	"
do. " 2, Brown ..	5.60 to 5.70	"
Foochow Sugar Candy	12.55 to 12.60	"
Shekloong "	10.30 to 10.35	"

RICE.

HONGKONG, 10th January.—Large demands having come forward, the prices are consequently going upward. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary.....	\$2.65 to 2.70
" Round, Good quality	3.85 to 3.90
" Long	4.00 to 4.05
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2	2.85 to 2.90
" Garden, " No. 1	3.35 to 3.40
" White.....	3.85 to 3.90
" Fine Cargo	4.17 to 4.20

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 10th January.—Amongst the sales reported during the week are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—*Bombay Yarn*: 100 bales No. 6 at \$77 to \$78, 100 bales No. 8 at \$80 to \$82, 1,150 bales No. 10 at \$87 to \$92, 1,450 bales No. 12 at \$89 to \$95.50, 100 bales No. 16 at \$103 to \$104, 1,250 bales No. 20 at \$101 to \$111.50. *Gray Shirtings*: 700 pieces 7 lbs. Large Eagle at \$2.30, 60 pieces 8½ lbs. Fox and Goat at \$3.60. *Mexican*: 1,500 pieces 36 Stag Hunter at \$3.55, 750 pieces Gold Dragon at \$2.90, 60 pieces 36 Gold Dragon at \$3.17½. *White Shirtings*: 1,000 pieces Fox and Duck at \$6.20, 1,000 pieces Ball at \$4.90.

METAL.—*Pig Leads* (new mark): 2,100 piculs at \$7.40 to arrive. *Tinplates*: 500 case at \$7.50 to arrive. *Nail Rod* (1/6): 400 bundles at \$1.25 to arrive.

Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s.....	\$75.00 to \$117.00	per bale
English—Nos. 16 to 24.....	114.00 to 120.00	
" 22 to 24.....	120.00 to 128.00	
" 28 to 32.....	136.00 to 142.00	
" 38 to 42.....	155.00 to 170.00	

COTTON PIECE GOODS—

Grey Shirtings—6 lbs.	2.10 to 2.20	per piece.
" 7 lbs.	2.30 to 2.50	
" 8½ lbs.	2.80 to 3.50	
" 9 to 10 lbs.	3.60 to 4.55	
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.	2.35 to 2.60	
" 58 to 60 "	3.05 to 4.00	
" 64 to 66 "	4.10 to 5.75	
" Fine.....	5.20 to 7.30	
" Book-folds.....	4.20 to 6.25	
Victoria Lawns—12 yards.....	0.73 to 1.20	
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y.	1.60 to 1.80	
" 7lbs. (32 ") "	1.90 to 2.20	
" 6lbs. (32 ") " Mexs.	1.85 to 2.05	
" 7lbs. (32 ") "	2.75 to 3.25	
" 8 to 8½ oz., (36 in.)	2.85 to 3.40	
Drills, English—40 yds., 13½ to 14 lbs.	4.00 to 6.75	

FANCY COTTONS—

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 8 lbs.	1.50 to 5.00	
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BROCADES—

Dyed	— to —	
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DAMASKS—

Chintzes—Assorted	— to —	per yard
Velvets—Black, 22 in.	0.22 to 0.50	
Velveteens—18 in.	0.21 to 0.26	

Handkerchiefs—

Imitation Silk	— to —	per dozen
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WOOLLENS—

Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops.	0.62½ to 1.70	per yard
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths	1.25 to 3.00	

Long Ells—

Scarlet, 7-10 lbs.	6.35 to 8.10	per piece
Assorted.....	6.45 to 8.20	

Camlets—

Assorted.....	12.00 to 30.75	
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Lastings—

30 yds., 31 inches	11.00 to 17.00	
Assorted	— to —	

Orleans—

Plain	— to —	per pair
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Blankets—

8 to 12 lbs.	2.50 to 4.00	
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METALS—

Iron—Nail Rod	4.35 to —	per picul
Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng.	4.25 to —	
Swedish Bar	6.75 to —	
Small Round Rod	4.75 to —	
Hoop ½ to 1½ in.	5.50 to —	
Wire 15/25	8.75 to —	
Old Wire Rope	2.50 to —	
Pig Non.....	35.50 to 38.50	
Lead, L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop ..	7.75 to —	
Australian	7.80 to —	
Yellow M'tal—Muntz 14/20 oz.	40.00 to —	
" Vivian's 14/20 oz.	40.00 to —	
" Elliot's 14/20 oz.	39.50 to —	
Composition Nails.....	63.00 to —	
Japan Copper, Slabs.....	42.00 to —	
Tin.....	69.25 to —	

Tin-Plates	7.50 to —	per box.
Steel ½ to ¾	5.50 to —	per cwt. case

SUNDRIES—

Quicksilver	168.00 to —	per picul
Window Glass	6.30 to —	per box.
Kerosene Oil.....	2.27 to —	per 10-gal. case

SHARE REPORT.

HONGKONG, 10th January.—Business has been very dull during the interval under review, and rates in many cases show a decline on last week's values.

BANKS. — Hongkong and Shanghai have improved to \$635 with sales, in sympathy with the advance in the London rate to £65. Nationals (ordinary) are still in request at \$27, but founders' shares are offering at \$10.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions are slightly easier at \$342½ sales. China Traders have sold and are wanted at \$53. Yangtszes and Cantons continue on offer at last quotations, and North Chinas are wanted at Tls. 180.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkong Fires have sold at \$370, and are in further request. China Fires have sold at \$90 and are obtainable.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have improved to \$37½ with sales and further buyers. Indo-Chinas have declined to \$139, at which sales are reported. Business has also been done in this stock at \$142 and \$141 for January, and at \$141 for February. China Manilas have further receded to \$59 sellers and Douglasses to \$46 sellers. Shell Transports are obtainable at the reduced rate of £2. 7s. 6d. Star Ferries are unaltered at \$24 and \$9 for the old and new issues respectively, with sellers.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have declined to \$149 sellers. Luzons can be placed at \$26.

MINING.—Under this head the chief feature is the advance in Charbonnages to \$450 buyers. Raubs have declined to \$9 sellers. Other stocks are unchanged.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks, after sales at \$290, have fallen off to \$287½ sellers. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves continue on offer at \$94. New Amoy Docks have further improved to \$30 with buyers.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands, after sales at \$195, are obtainable to some extent at \$194. Hongkong Hotels have sold at \$137, but are now held for \$138. Humphreys Estates are wanted at \$14. West Points and Kowloon Lands remain unchanged at \$65 and \$33 respectively, with sellers.

COTTON MILLS.—Hongkongs have come into request, and are now quoted at \$14. No other changes to report.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Island Cements have declined to \$21½ sellers, and Watsons to \$15½ sellers. Electrics ordinary are in demand at \$13½, but the new issue can be obtained at \$6½. Ropes are quiet at \$175. Fenwicks have declined to \$52 sellers without finding buyers. Ices have sold at \$195. Tramways have further improved to \$305 buyers. Sales of United Asbestos and Watkins are both reported at \$10. China Providents also have sold at \$10, and are in further request.

MEMOS.—China Provident Loan and Mortgage Co., Ltd., ordinary yearly meeting on the

15th instant; transfer books closed from tomorrow, 11th instant. Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Co., Ltd., and West Point Building Co., Ltd., ordinary yearly meetings on the 23rd instant; transfer books close on the 14th instant.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY..	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	(\$825. L'don, £65.
China & Japan, ordy.	£4	£1.
Do. deferred	£1	nominal.
Natl. Bank of China		
A. Shares	£28	\$27, buyers
B. Shares	£28	\$27, buyers
Foun. Shares...	£21	\$10, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A....	£21	\$1.
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$21, buyers
China-Borneo Co., Ltd.	\$15	\$38.
China Light & Power (\$20	\$20.
Co., Ltd.)		
China Prov. L. & M....	\$10	\$10, buyers
China Sugar	\$100	\$149, sellers
Cigar Companies—		
Alhambra Limited...	\$500	\$500, nominal.
Philippine Tobacco)	\$50	\$52.
Invest. Co., Ltd.)		
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 48.
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 30.
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 50.
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 150.
Hongkong	\$100	\$14, buyers
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$11.
Fenwick & Co., Geo....	\$25	\$52.
Green Island Cement...	\$10	\$21, sellers
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$50.
Hongkong & C. Gas ...	£10	\$140, buyers
Hongkong Electric (\$10	\$13, buyers
H. H. L. Tramways ...	\$5	\$8, sellers
Hk. Steam Water)	\$100	\$305, buyers
boat Co., Ltd.)	\$5	\$8, buyers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$138, sellers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$195, sales
H. & K. Wharf & G....	\$50	\$94, sellers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$175.
H. & W. Dock	\$50	287, sellers
Insurance—		
Canton	\$50	\$155, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$90, sales & sellers
China Traders'	\$25	\$53, sales & buyers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$370, sales & buyers
North China	£25	Tls. 180, buyers
Straits	\$20	nominal.
Union	\$50	\$342, sales
Yangtze	\$60	\$130, sellers
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$100	\$194, sellers
Humphreys Estate...	\$10	\$14, buyers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$33.
West Point Building	\$50	\$65, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$26, buyers
Manila Invest. Co., Ltd.	\$50	45, sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$450, buyers
Jebeu	\$5	\$4, sellers
Queen's Mines, Ltd....	25c.	4 cents.
Olivers Mines, A....	\$5	nominal.
Do. B....	\$4	nominal.
Punjom	\$10	\$5, sellers
Do. Preference...	\$1	\$1, sellers
Rauhs	18	\$9, sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$63	\$30, buyers
Oriente Hotel, Manila	\$50	\$56.
Powell, Ltd.	\$10	\$9, ex div.
Robinson Piano Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$50, nominal
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila ...	\$50	\$59, sellers
China Mutual Pref.	\$40	\$10.
Do. Ordinary	£7.10	£7.10s.
Do. Bonus	£5	£5.
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$46, sellers
H. Canton and M....	\$15	\$37, buyers
Indo-China S. N.	£10	\$139.
Shel. Transport and)	£1	£2.7s. 6d., sellers
Trading Co.)		
Star Ferry	\$10	(\$2, sellers \$0, sellers
Tebrau Planting Co....	\$5	\$1.
United Abestos	\$4	\$10, sales
Do	\$10	\$15.
Universal Trading (\$5	\$20, buyers
Co., Ltd.)		
Watkins, Ltd.	\$10	\$1, sales
Watson & Co., A. S. ...	\$10	\$15, sellers

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

SHANGHAI, 31st December (from Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report). The December clearance, which is a considerable one, is interfering with business; it is passing off satisfactorily. INSURANCE.—Marine. North Chinas changed hands at Tls. 185; Yangtszes are wanted. Fire stocks are quiet. SUGAR.—Peraks sold at Tls. 77. SHIPPING.—Indo-China S. N. Co. Cash sales took place at Tls. 106.50; a June settlement is reported at Tls. 112.50. China Mutuals are offering. MINING.—Chinese Engineering and Mining Co., Ltd. Transactions are reported from Tls. 9 to 9.60 for 31st inst.; a closing sale is given at Tls. 9.50. Shares fetched Tls. 9.65, 9.50 and 9.75 for March and 9.70 for June. DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—S. C. Farnham, Boyd and Co., Ltd. Sales were made for cash and 31st instant, at Tls. 252.50, 255, 252.50, market closing steady at last named rate. March shares fetched Tls. 265, 260, 262.50, January 257.50, April 237.50. Shanghai and Honkew Wharf shares changed hands at Tls. 305 for settlement. LANDS.—Shanghai are in firm request. Weihaiwei are offering. INDUSTRIAL.—Yah Loong Cotton Spinning Co., Ltd. A special meeting of shareholders is convened for 15th January next to consider resolutions to liquidate the Company. Ice shares are offering. Cigarettes were placed at Tls. 40 and are offering. Pulp sold at Tls. 102.50. TUGS AND CARGO BOATS.—Shanghai and Taku Tugs are in demand. Cargo Boats sold at Tls. 137.50 MISCELLANEOUS.—Sumatra Tobacco shares are offering. Langkat Tobacco shares sold at Tls. 332.50, 330, and 332.50 for cash and 31st inst.; January shares were taken at Tls. 335 and May at 335. Central Stores changed hands at \$20 and are wanted. Telephone shares are offering. DEBENTURES.—The British Municipal Council of Hankow advertised the issue of Tls. 100,000 Debentures, bearing interest at 7 per cent., payable half-yearly, redeemable in not less than five or more than ten years. Subscription was invited from Shanghai, but notice of the loan was only received here on 24th inst., and it was announced that lists would close in Hankow on 28th inst.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

SATURDAY, 11th January.

EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/10 1/2
Bank Bills, on demand	1/10 1/4
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1 10 1/2
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/10 1/4
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/10 1/4
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/10 1/4
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.33
Credits, 4 months' sight	2.37
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	1.89 1/2
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	46 1/2
Credits, 60 days' sight	47 1/2
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	137 1/2
Bank, on demand	138
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	138
Bank, on demand	138 1/2
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	73 1/2
Private, 30 days' sight	73 1/2
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	9 1/2
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	3
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	par
ON BATAVIA.—	
On demand	112 1/2
ON HAIPHONG.—	
On demand	1 1/2
ON SAIGON.—	
On demand	1 1/2
ON BANGKOK.—	
On demand	60 1/2
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	
BAR SILVER per oz.	

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR LONDON.—Bengal (str.), Malacca (str.), Peleus (str.), Glenshiel (str.), Sado Maru (str.), Stentor (str.), Ajaz (str.), Idomeneus (str.).
FOR LIVERPOOL.—Tantalus (str.), Patroclus (str.).
FOR MARSEILLES.—Indus (str.), Sado Maru (str.).
FOR BREMEN.—Prins Heinrich (str.), Ambria (str.), Sambia (str.).
FOR HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—Ambria (str.), Konigsberg (str.), Sambia (str.), C. Ferd. Laeiss (str.), Andalusia (str.), Strassburg (str.).
FOR ROTTERDAM.—Strassburg (str.).
FOR TRIESTE.—Maria Valerie (str.).
FOR VICTORIA, B.C.—Kintuck (str.), Kinshiu Maru (str.), Olympia (str.).
FOR VANCOUVER.—Empress of China (str.), Tartar (str.).
FOR NEW YORK.—Afridi (str.), Indrani (str.).
FOR PORTLAND (Or.).—Indrapura (str.).
FOR AUSTRALIAN PORTS.—Airlie (str.), Chinglu (str.).
FOR BOMBAY, VIA SINGAPORE AND PENANG.—Bisagno (str.).
FOR SINGAPORE AND BOMBAY.—Nankin (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

ARRIVALS.

January—

3, Loongsang, British str., from Manila.
4, Anping, British str., from Shanghai.
4, Benvorlich, British str., from London.
4, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.
4, Kinshiu Maru, Jap. str., from Seattle.
4, Kwanglee, British str., from Canton.
4, Loksang, British str., from Chinkiang.
4, Progress, German str., from Tournon.
4, Sishan, British str., from Saigon.
4, Taifu, German str., from Chefoo.
4, Terrible, British cruiser, from Weihaiwei.
4, Endymion, British cruiser, from practice.
4, Wingsang, British str., from Canton.
5, Antonio Macleod, Amr. str., from Ploilo.
5, Chihli, British str., from Chefoo.
5, Coromandel, British str., from Bombay.
5, Decima, German str., from Manila.
5, Esang, British str., from Chinkiang.
5, Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.
5, Kyoto Maru, Japanese str., from Karatsu.
5, Oronsay, British str., from Foochow.
5, Tamsui, British str., from Swatow.
5, Trym, Norwegian str., from Haiphong.
6, Ajenrade, German str., from Haiphong.
6, Aspern, Austrian gunboat, from Shanghai.
6, Deucalion, British str., from Foochow.
6, Hue, French str., from Haiphong.
6, Maidzuru Maru, Jap. str., from Anping.
7, Chunsang, British str., from Canton.
7, Dimitri Donskoy, Rus. cr., from Nagasaki.
7, Fukui Maru, Japanese str., from Mororan.
7, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
7, Penarth, British str., from Wellington.
7, Prinzess Irene, Ger. str., from Yokohama.
7, Shansi, British str., from Wuhu.
7, Taisang, British str., from Canton.
7, Vladimir Monomach, Rus. cr., from N'saki.
7, Wineland, Danish str., from Singapore.
7, Wosang, British str., from Chinkiang.
7, Pigmy, British gunboat, from Shanghai.
8, Choysang, British str., from Shanghai.
8, Daigi Maru, Japanese str., from Tamsui.
8, Devawongse German str., from Bangkok.
8, Hailoong, British str. for Swatow.
8, Kanagawa Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
8, Loongmoon, German str., from Shanghai.
8, Anping, British str., from Canton.
8, Iltis, German gunboat, from Macao.
8, Loksang, British str., from Canton.
8, Pakhoi, British str., from Canton.
8, Wantai, Chinese gunboat, from Shanghai.
9, Airlie, British str., from Japan.
9, Diamante, British str., from Manila.
9, Elsa, German str., from Hongay.
9, Flandria, German str., from Chinkiang.
9, Glenogle, British str., from Shanghai.
9, Haiching, British str., from Swatow.
9, Hoihao, British str., from Haiphong.
9, Hunan, British str., from Canton.
9, Kaifong, British str., from Cebu.
9, Kintuck, British str., from Singapore.
9, Kwangse, British str., from Canton.
9, Lowther Castle, British str., from N. York.
9, Memmen, Dutch str., from Singapore.
9, Oslo, Norwegian str., from Sourabaya.
9, Thea, German str., from Haiphong.
9, Independent, German str., from Chefoo.

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